The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by The Commercial Printing Company, Corner Fifth Avenue and Smithfield Street, opposite Post-office.

C. B. BRIGHAM, Editor.

B. D. THOMSON, Business Manager.

☞ TERMS OF THE DAILY. Single copy, 5 cents; Delivered by carriers every week, $1a cents; subscribers by mail (per year), $10 00.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Select Intelligence, and valuable reading for the family.

☞ TERMS OF THE WEEKLY. Per year ($2 issues), $2 00; in Clubs of Twenty, $1 50; one copy gratis to the getter-up of the Club.

The money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can these terms be deviated from.

☞ Postmasters are requested to act as Agents.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VIII. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 2, 1871. NO. 90.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M

WASHINGTON.

SENATOR WILSON DENIES THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE REPORTED INTERVIEW.

Another Chapter about Surratt—Funeral of Mrs. Secretary Belknap—Political Sociable—The French Fair—Indexing State Papers—Jeff. Davis's Richmond Mansion turned into a School House—Important Case in the Supreme Court—The Announcement that no Receptions will be Held To-day Unfavorably Received, &c., &c.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 31, 1870.

Surratt Again.

It seems that there were good grounds for refusing to allow Surratt to lecture here last night, as it evidently was the determination of a number of parties, both Democrats and Republicans, to create a disturbance. It seems that after he lectured here, Surratt intended to make a Southern trip, but his late troubles have dissuaded him from it, and his friends have advised him that such a course would expose him to personal danger—a suggestion which Surratt has never yet failed to heed. In connection with Surratt, it may be as well to state that the assertion in these despatches a few days ago was promised by Judge Advocate Holt that if he gave himself up his mother should be released was made upon authority of one of the counsel employed by the Government in the case.

Political Sociable.

The Illinois State Republican Association will give their annual sociable next week at Music Hall. T. B. Bryan will pass the opening address, which will be responded to by the Hon. N. B. Judd.

Funeral of Mrs. Belknap.

The pall-bearers at the funeral of Mrs. Secretary Belknap to-morrow afternoon will be Senators Fish, Postmaster-General Creswell, Judge S. F. Miller, of the Supreme Court; General Horace Porter, C. P. Marsh, of New York; General Michler, Secretary Robeson, General Sherman, General Ricketts, Wm. S. Huntington, Esq., Commodore Alden and General E. W. Rice, of Iowa.

The French Fair.

To be held here next week, promises to be a great success. Contributions from the leading northern cities have flowed in liberally, while the people here have given largely of money and goods. One of the leading features is a raffle for a thousand dollar United States government bond, loaned for that purpose by Jay Cooke.

Indexing State Papers.

Nearly the whole force of Judge Colt's office is engaged in indexing the great mass of State papers which came into possession of the War Department during the war, and after the surrender of the rebel armies.

***The Intl.* Davis Mansion**

In Richmond, which has been purchased by the Board of Education of the City of Richmond for school purposes, was opened Wednesday night by a grand house warming.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 1, 1871.

Denies the Interview.

It is alleged that the interview with Senator Wilson, published on Friday, was wholly unauthorized. The Senator was in New York on a temporary visit at the time, and did not know such a thing had been printed until last night. He disclaims all responsibility for the article, and says whatever there may be in it of truth has been so padded with error as to be no just expression of his views.

No Receptions.

The fact that the President and Cabinet ministers will hold no receptions to-morrow has caused considerable unfavorable comment here, especially in diplomatic circles. The present is said to be the first time that such action has been taken by reason of death in the family of any member of the Cabinet.

Important Ohio Case.

The Supreme Court on Thursday will take up the case of Edmondson's heirs against Bloomsher et al., involving the title to from six to eight thousand acres of valuable land in Union and Delaware counties, Ohio. The case comes up on appeal from the decree of Judge Leavitt, in the Circuit Court for the Southern District of Ohio, in favor of the occupants. An appeal was taken by the heirs, and they live in Virginia. The occupants claim title under the heirs of the sister of General Harrison. The claimants assert title under their devisee. Judge Lawrence and J. W. Robinson appear for the occupants, and Henry Stanberry represents the claimant. Lawrence will move to dismiss the appeal. The original plaintiffs are dead. Their heirs got the appeal allowed. The motion to dismiss will be on the ground that the heirs appealing were not made parties by the bill of revivor. If the appeal is dismissed the decree of the Circuit Court remains in force confirming the title of the occupants.

Organization of Indian Territory.

Mr. Van Horn, of the House Indian Committee, has been authorized to report a bill organizing Indian Territory under the name of Oklahoma. The bill carries out the principal features of the treaties of 1866. It provides for the appointment by the President of a Governor, Secretary, Supreme Court, and District Judges and Marshal, which may be white. There is to be a legislative council, with one branch only; the members to be connected with the various tribes. Provision is made for an Indian delegate in Congress, and for six interpreters, who are to prepare the proceedings of the Legislature for publication in the English language.

The Cherokee Lands.

Mr. Armstrong, of the House Indian Committee, is preparing the majority report on the *validity* of Joy's title to the Cherokee neutral lands. The report will hold *that* the question is not one to be decided by legislation, but by the courts. General Sanborn has a minority report, favoring the setting aside of the Joy purchase as illegal.

The Army Retiring Board

Adjourned last night. One hundred and thirty officers were ordered before it; only ninety-eight cases were considered, a number of officers from the Pacific coast not being able to reach this city. Of the cases examined, thirty were allowed to resign, and five were incomplete when the board expired by the terms of the law. Of the remainder, sixty-three, about half were reported upon unfavorably, and the rest were ordered to their homes to await orders.

Argument on Ohio River Bridges.

The subject of Ohio river bridges will be fully argued before the Senate Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads soon after the reassembling of Congress.

Appropriations for Public Buildings.

The Committee on Appropriations will not agree to report the amount asked for by the Secretary for public buildings throughout the country. This amount is three millions. The committee will name the same sum as for the current year, namely, $1,000,000.

Balance in the Treasury.

The following is the exhibit of the balance in the Treasury for the year just closed, as compared with last year: Currency, 1869, $7,868,499; 1870, $26,247,515; gold, 1869, $70,000,000; 1870, $82,000,000. Total for 1870, $108,247,515.

Summer on Reconstruction.

Senator Sumner has by request prepared a political article for the New York *Independent*, entitled, "The New Year." After the expression of good wishes for the new year, Mr. Sumner speaks of the work of reconstruction, which he insists still requires work and guard, saying it is not complete so long as the Unionists or freedmen are in peril. He refers to the bad news from North Carolina, where civil war is brewing again. Until all men are secure, amnesty must be adjourned. Captivating as the measure may be, the time has not come for it. Specie payments must be re-established with reconstruction. Peace and security are the specie of reconstruction, as gold and silver are the specie of currency. Mr. Sumner then laments that the public energies are deviated from these measures by a machination to obtain a West India island, where ships of war 30 more than diplomacy, all of which is according to the worst precedent, besides involving the country in a large present expense on account of the ships maintained there, and mentioning other liabilities, with the climax of war. The project is pushed in utter indifference to the African race, while an American Commodore has threatened war against the black Republic of Hayti, who sympathize with the colored race should take their stand against this scheme. Its prosecution will be dangerous to the Republican party, with which we are associated. The Republican party must be a unit, but this can only be by avoiding questions which will create division. Nobody is authorized to impose a test of party fidelity.

The great words of Andrew Jackson for the Union must be applied to the party, and all must repeat, "The Republican party, it must be preserved." To this end all disturbing questions must be allowed to slumber. Mr. Sumner then proceeded to express aspirations for peace abroad, with the hope that one of the present consuming fires a new civilization may arise.

WASHINGTON, December 31, 1870.

BURNED TO DEATH.

At a fire in the northern part of this city to-day Mrs. Ann Rose, aged seventy-nine years, was so badly burned that she died.

MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES.

Fourteen hundred and eighty-three marriage licenses were issued in the District of Columbia during 1870. Forty-three divorce cases were filed during the same period, of which eighteen were granted, five dismissed and the remainder are pending.

CONSOLIDATION OF REVENUE DISTRICTS.

The indications are that in Pennsylvania the President will consolidate the Seventh and Ninth Internal Revenue Districts; the Fifteenth and Fourteenth; the Sixteenth and Seventeenth; the Twenty-first and Twenty-fourth; the Twenty-second and Twenty-third; the Nineteenth and Twentieth; the Eighteenth and Thirteenth; the Eleventh and Twelfth; the Eighth and Tenth; the Fifth and Sixth; the Fourth and Third; the Second and First. The calculation is to take one officer from each district. Some change in some reason why both should be taken from and new men appointed.

BURDETT CUBAN NEGOTIATIONS.

For some weeks past it has been known among a few persons friendly to the Cuban cause, that a confidential agent of the Spanish Government, who is also a personal friend of the new King, has been here and in New York, endeavoring to find a basis of agreement on which to establish peace between the Cubans and the Spaniards. The former have proven their capacity for prolonged resistance, while the Spaniards are realizing the impossibility of ending the warfare such as that now being carried on. Terms of a most liberal character have been submitted to Senor Adams, as the head of the New York Cuban Junta, through a prominent United States Senator, which were first indorsed by Senor Roberts, the Spanish Minister. Those terms, which promised nearly all that could be asked short of independence, were rejected by Adams for the Junta. They are quite hopeful in consequence of the successful departures of the Hornet and Virgin, with Quesada and Ryan on board. The Hornet is a more formidable vessel than the famous Alabama, and it is anticipated that if she succeeds in getting her armament on board without violating any neutral obligation, that great damage will be done to Spanish commerce.

Recently the negotiations are reported as being resumed, with a direct request to the United States to offer mediatorial services. The recent meeting of the Senate Foreign Committee at the State Department, the object of which has caused such speculation here, had, it is deemed, probably something to do with Cuban affairs. It is stated positively that the Alabama claims were not mentioned.

POSTAL CHANGES IN PENNSYLVANIA AND WEST VIRGINIA.

Appointment—Miss Delia A. Sinsel, Postmistress, Prunty town, Taylor county, West Virginia, vice R. R. Breel, deceased.

Pennsylvania Mail Service—Route No. 1,826, Perkiomen Junction to Schwenck's Store; from January 16, 1871; order service to be performed by railroad, six times a week and back (or more frequently if required, and cars run), by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, F. B. Gowan, President, from Perkiomen Junction by Oaks, New York, Collegeville, Trappe, and Grater's Ford to Schwenck's Store, the rate of pay to be adjusted on the basis adopted by the Department. Bids will only be duly carried and facilities furnished. Under this arrangement service on Route 1,819, Norristown to Phœnixville, and on Route No. 1,921, Norristown to Pennsburg, is discontinued, and the contractor allowed one month's extra pay.

Mail Messenger Service.—S. E. Hartranft is designated to convey the mails between Shanesville and Oak Station, Pennsylvania, at $81 per annum, and between Port Providence and Phœnixville at $40 per annum, both from 1st January next. S. E. Hartranft is also the contractor for service three times a week and back, by a schedule satisfactory to the Department, on Route 1,921—Schwenck's Store to Pennsburg—from January 16, 1871, to June 30, 1872, at $383 per year.

MOTLEY'S LETTER WITHHELD.

The State Department refuses to give Motley's letter of defense to the press for publication. In view of this Motley's friends propose to telegraph him to let the representatives of the American press at London have it, so that it may be sent by cable to this country.

A PLOW FOR SUBSIDIES.

In an official circular to the State Department, Minister Blow takes strong ground in favor of American legislation for maintaining a mail and commercial steamship service with the South American countries. He favors liberal subsidies.

CAMERON TO UPSET THE GEORGIA ELECTION.

Word comes from Georgia that Senator Cameron has left for Washington to turn up some documents to upset the Georgia election. Three of the four Democratic members are already threatened with a notice of contest for the purpose of preventing them from taking their seats in the present Congress.

SALE OF COIN AUTHORIZED.

The Secretary of the Treasury has authorized the sale of four million coin and three purchase of six millions of bonds during the month.

FRANKLIN, PA.

The Disaster on Friday—Some Further Particulars—A Defective Flue the Cause.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

FRANKLIN, PA., December 31, 1870.

Your correspondent not being present at the fire which occurred at this place on Friday, gave you such facts as he could collect from reliable authority. In the main they were correct. The fire was caused by a defective flue in the Marshall House, adjoining the end of the bridge on the Franklin side of the river, and immediately communicated to the toll house across the street. The wire cable supporting the bridge was secured in the street, between the Marshall House and the toll house. The boat canvas, the cable to give way, precipitating the whole structure into the river. The McIntire family, who occupied the toll house, had carried their furniture on the bridge for safety, and Mrs. McIntire and her two daughters are seriously but not dangerously injured.

William Neil was killed by falling with the bridge on the ice. Mr. Kilgour, agent of the Valley Road, went down with the bridge. His body has not been recovered. There are no other persons missing up to this time. The bridge is a total wreck. It was a miserable structure, and the loss to the owners is only a few thousand dollars.

The Marshall House was owned by Peter McGough, and insured for two thousand dollars. The furniture was entirely destroyed. Mr. Marshall had no insurance, and his loss is heavy. The warrant for the bridge will be seriously felt, as the river is in bad order for boats.

J. B. B.

WHEATLAND, PA.

A Boy Killed by a Coal Miner for Throwing Snow upon Him.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WHEATLAND, PA., December 31, 1870.

Yesterday noon a boy named Alfred Bevin, aged fourteen years, employed at the mines of the Coal Run Coal Bank, was fatally injured by a miner at the same bank named Anthony Boden. Boden was in the blacksmith shop at the time, and he heard some one hit Bevin for throwing snow upon him, and picking up a piece of three-quarter round iron about a yard long, threw it at him, the end of which glancing from a vice, hit Bevin upon the back of his head with such force as to penetrate the skull and cause his death, which occurred about nine o'clock last night. Boden went to Middlesex to-day to give himself up to the authorities.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Dr. Thrall enters upon his duties as Marshal of the Southern Ohio District to-day.

A movement is on foot among Cincinnati merchants to tender General Schenck a banquet before his departure for England.

A petition was filed in Cincinnati, Saturday, by the Ardes Insurance Company, asking that Horsfield, Elliott & Co., of Hamilton, Ohio, be adjudged bankrupt.

Charles McCullough, the policeman convicted of *complicity* in the October election in Philadelphia was on Saturday sentenced to one year's imprisonment and to pay a fine of $500. Five other men, convicted of false personation and illegal voting, were sentenced to six months imprisonment.

The *Tribune's* review of the commerce of Detroit, Mich., for the past year shows receipts of flour 344,619 barrels; wheat 9,125,473 bushels; corn 411,038 bushels; oats 426,018 bushels; barley 378,027 bushels; dressed hogs 6,616,851 head; hides 5,157,769; wool 5,709,917; cattle 126,249 head; sheep 158,356 head; hogs 188,102 head.

In Cincinnati, four and one-thirdsmiles of streets and alleys have been built during the past year, at a cost of $113,577.

The criminal element among the opponents to the paid fire department in Philadelphia has been very active since the bill was passed by councils, and incendiary fires and rioting are more frequent than ever. Mayor Fox has offered a reward of $500 for the arrest of the incendiaries. The Drug Exchange passed resolutions favoring a paid fire department, and it is now necessary to keep a force in the drug stores, the firemen having threatened to destroy them.

Joseph R. Escarnille, President of the second branch of the City Council of Baltimore, died Saturday afternoon. He was for many years Grand Secretary of the Lodge of Odd Fellows.

The ice boat Chesapeake, a steamer of great power, used for clearing the harbor and bay of Baltimore of ice, blew up Saturday evening off Sandy Point, near Annapolis. One man was instantly killed, and three others severely scalded. After the explosion the Chesapeake was immediately sunk. She cost $125,000, and was insured for $95,000.

Clarence Geoghegan, a merchant of Greenville, Miss., formerly of Louisville, fell overboard from the Belle Lee on Tuesday, near Greenville, and was drowned.

The officer's quarters at the garrison of Fort Smith, Ark., were burned on the 20th, caused by a defective flue. They were built in 1849 at a cost of $60,000.

Armstead Wilson, colored, was shot and killed on Washington street, Memphis, Saturday night. Amos Cooper was arrested, charged with being the murderer, as he had threatened Wilson. Cause jealousy.

The bark Sarah Douglass has been seized by the Collector of the port of Galveston for violation of the United States revenue law, in loading coal without a permit. She is now under the charge of the revenue cutter.

THE OIL REGIONS.

The Titusville Herald's Defense—Production of Shamburg Wells—The West Hickory District, &c., &c.

THE HERALD'S DEFENSE.

The Titusville *Herald*, in response to "Complainer's" last letter, charging it with manipulating the figures of shipments, prints a table "furnished by the official representative of oil freights on the Allegheny Valley Railroad, and of whose reliability we have never the slightest question," showing that the whole amount of shipments by that railroad were printed by the journal in question exactly as given by H. D. McCreary, agent of the line at Oil City, viz: a total of 71,587 barrels, against 62,354, "as guessed at by 'Complainter.'" The *Herald* further says:

"The original copy of shipments by O. C. & A. R. R. to all points such show precisely the number stated, and would be given in detail were it necessary, and but for the fact that our facilities for obtaining complete and correct figures are such that we do not deem it obligatory or expedient to make the same public."

PRODUCTION AT SHAMBURG.

The Petroleum Center *Record* corrects the statement made by it, that the largest well in the Shamburg district was not producing more than fifteen barrels per day. It has since been informed by De-Shamburg that he has one well yielding about forty barrels daily, and another on the neighborhood are producing over fifteen barrels daily.

TIDIOUTE AND WEST HICKORY.

According to the tables published in the Tidioute *Journal*, the daily production of Tidioute is 723 barrels, and that of the West Hickory field reaches 1,905 barrels.

SCATTERING.

The new Donelson well, on the Angell farm, Pithole and Whitney tract, Foster station, had twenty-eight feet of sand-rock, and gives indications of a good well.

A new well was struck at West Hickory on Tuesday last, owned by J. Shirk and others, of Oil City, which is said to be pumping 250 barrels a day.

The Petrolia, Canada, letter of the Titusville *Herald* says there are no new developments there, and no wells pumping more than seventy or eighty barrels a day. The daily production of crude oil is computed at 1,600 barrels, and the shipments 1,500 barrels, stocks in tank being worked off. The exporters complain that the price of oil at the wells leaves them no fair profit in the trade.

The Venango *Spectator* says: A new well owned by Amy, McMullen & Co., of Venango city, located near the Atlantic and Great Western depot, commenced pumping on Tuesday, and is yielding about thirty barrels daily of heavy oil. The well is two hundred and fifty-eight feet deep, and has gas enough to run the engine. The property is owned by Mr. Mumford.

Haskell & Rhodes's new well, on the Rooker farm, Pithole, is yielding seventy barrels of oil daily by actual measurement. A number of other wells are to be put down at once in this vicinity.

The big well on Patchell Run, near Franklin, yields 150 barrels daily.

HARRISBURG.

Both Caucuses to Meet To-Night.

Prominent Candidates for the Different Places—Wallace's Election to the Speakership of the Senate—Buckalew will not Vote for Him under Any Condition—Proposed Compromise.

[Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Press.]

HARRISBURG, January 1, 1871.—Nearly all the members of the Legislature are here—Thirty Republicans of the House held an informal caucus yesterday afternoon, appointing Elliott, of Philadelphia; Stone, of Warren; Reinoehl, of Lancaster; Whitson, of Lancaster; Keech, of Chester; Humphreys, of Allegheny, and Cloud, of Philadelphia, a Special Committee to fix up a slate of minor offices for the regular caucus.

Webb, of Bradford, and McJunkin, of Venango, are named for the Speakership, with the odds in favor of the former. General Shiffrige, for clerk, is opposed by McCracken, of Warren, but quite successfully. Lee will again be assistant, and Small resident clerk. Wm. J. Owens, of Philadelphia, has the inside track for sergeant-at-arms, though Allegheny claims the nomination.

In the Senate there is a great pressure for positions. Wallace has nearly the unanimous support of the Democrats for Speaker, but Buckalew is known to have declared that he would not vote for him in any event, which would leave the organization of the Senate uncertain. In this event Furman, of Greene, is discussed as a compromise candidate. Jacob Zeigler, of Butler, Charles W. Carrigan, of Philadelphia, Henry C. Smith, of Lancaster, C. F. Alexander, of Centre, and David Caswell, of Philadelphia, are all prominent candidates for the clerkship, with the odds in favor of Zeigler. F. A. Coalhan, of Schuylkill, is Randall's candidate for Sergeant-at-Arms, but Dechert is pushing John Ahren, of Philadelphia. The contest is close and spirited, with John R. McCunne, of Philadelphia, as a third candidate. Both caucuses will be held to-morrow night.

ANOTHER DISPATCH.

Calm on the Surface, but Boiling Beneath —The Treasurership—A New Man Probable—Simon Wiggle-Waggles—Trouble in the Democratic Camp.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, January 1, 1871.

The city has to-day, considering the near approach of the session, presented an unusually quiet appearance—a fact which has been generally commented upon by the citizens and the members now here, and a stranger would be led to suppose that so important an event as the meeting of the Legislature scarcely disturbed this goodly city in the slightest degree. The warfare has been carried on, but inwardly the storm has been gathering. I doubt if there has ever been heretofore the same amount of button-holing and interviewing in twelve hours as has been done since Saturday last by the Hon. Simon is in the field, and has worked with a vim and in a manner that would have put to shame many a pot-house politician. To every member who follows in the wake of the latter he has verbal instructions as to how he shall vote in the allotment of the various offices. There are not a few who openly express their disgust at this undignified proceeding of the Democratic leader.

Quay is holding a levee at the Jones House, which has been well attended by the faithful. The withdrawal of Mr. Strang has narrowed the contest for the Treasurership. This confines it to Hartigan and Webb, with the chances in favor of the latter, who will undoubtedly be elected. Selfridge, for Clerk, will have no opposition. Small, Bedford Clerk, and Lee, Assistant Clerk, will be re-elected.

As regards the Treasurership, one thing is certain, and that is that Mackey will not be the man. There seems a growing disposition among the Democratic wards to ignore him and the Philadelphia ring, under General Vinoy, both Generals Blanchard and Committee to fix up a slate of minor offices for the Committee to fix up a slate of minor offices for the regular caucus. confidence of the whole Republican delegation. The friends of Mackey will struggle to-night, and believe they can bring him in as the most available man.

There is already trouble in the Democratic ranks. The redoubtable John Ahren is a candidate for Sergeant-at-arms. Dechert is backing him with all the power at his command, and Bell and Randall also have the position. The more respectable members of the party have protested against Ahren's election, and say it would bring disgrace to the party. Dechert, however, claims that he can control the vote, more to his efforts than to those of any other man, and says he shall be rewarded. As he wields the balance of power, his demand will be no foregone conclusion. Unless the most independent members should openly repudiate this representative of Philadelphia black-guardism. Wallace will be Speaker, and Ziegler stands it best chance for the clerkship, though his opponents are confident of defeating him.

An informal Republican caucus was held at the Lochiel House yesterday afternoon. There were about thirty members present. Shurlock, of Beaver, presided. A Committee, consisting of Messrs. Wright, Elliott, of Philadelphia, Chairman; C. W. Stone, of Warren, Secretary; A. C. Reinoehl, Lancaster; Gen. Whitson, Lancaster; Miles Humphreys, Allegheny; Joseph C. Keedy, Chester, and John Cloud, of Philadelphia, was appointed to examine the claims of the various candidates. The committee will report to the regular caucus, which meets to-morrow night at the Capitol. Q.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

Death of General Prim—Escape of the Assassins—Arrival of King Victor Emanuel in Rome, &c., &c.

Death of Gen. Prim.

MADRID, December 30.—Marshal Prim died last night from his wounds. The Duke of Aosta landed at Carthagena on Friday, and was received with enthusiasm by the people, and started next day for Madrid. The death of Gen. Prim has produced profound sensation and grief, and everywhere great indignation is manifested against his assassins.

Surrendered their Arms.

The Republican battalions of Madrid nearly all surrendered their arms in obedience to an order of the Governor General of Madrid. Perfect tranquility prevails in the capital and throughout the provinces.

Escape of General Prim's Assassins.

MADRID, December 31.—All those engaged in the assassination of General Prim, six in number, have escaped.

Treasury Bonds.

MADRID, December 31.—Don Cortes has sustained the issue of Treasury bonds.

Departure of King Victor Emanuel for Rome.

FLORENCE, December 31.—King Victor Emanuel and the principal ministers of the Italian cabinet have gone to Rome.

General Prim Improving.

LONDON, December 31.—A dispatch from Madrid, Thursday evening, says General Prim is much better, and that his wounds evince no serious symptoms.

Victor Emanuel in Rome.

ROME, December 31.—King Victor Emanuel has entered the city, and his reception was enthusiastic. The King appeared on the balcony of the Quirinal palace, and was cheered by immense assemblage.

The Changes in the English Cabinet.

LONDON, January 1.—The report seems to be generally credited that Chichester Fortescue will succeed John Bright as President of the Board of Trade. The Marquis of Hartington will become Secretary for Ireland, and Mr. Stansfeld will replace the Marquis as Under Secretary.

The Anglo-American Conference.

Of which Thomas Hughes, M. P., is chairman, has commenced its sittings, the purpose of which is the establishment of a lasting peace between England and America.

The New Spanish King.

MADRID, December 31.—The King elect is expected to arrive on Monday. The festivities which were to have taken place on his entrance into the city have been postponed.

Marine News.

LONDON, December 31.—The Lima, from Glasgow for New York, ran upon the wreck of the Antilles in the Clyde, and was obliged to put back to have her bottom examined.

LONDON, December 31.—The German steamer Baltimore, and the Vera Cruz, from Baltimore for Bremen, have arrived at Great Grimsby, and the latter proceeded. The Inman steamer Columbia, from New York for Glasgow, touched at Mobile to-day.

QUEENSTOWN, January 1.—The Batavia and Idaho have arrived.

NEW YORK

NEW YORK, December 31, 1870.

ARRIVED.

The steamer Queen, from Liverpool.

DEPARTED.

The steamship Thomas Kelso sailed to-day from here for New Orleans, consigned to James A. Rayner, Esq. This is the pioneer ship of the line between New Orleans and the Texas coast.

NEW YORK, January 1, 1871.

GEN. BLAIR'S FAREWELL.

Declines the farewell banquet tendered by his associates in the revenue service in this city. He says in his letter of response to the invitation that the Government should abandon the method, then and there double the salaries of the officers, thus reducing the expense to the Government, increasing popular confidence in the service and relieving officials from the embarrassing suspicion under which they are often compelled to labor. The Presidential nominee then commends the leadership of Horace Greeley.

REPUBLICAN GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The Republican General Committee of Kings county last night elected Gen. Collis Collector of Internal Revenue, chairman for the ensuing year.

TAMMANY ELECTION.

Tammany Hall last night elected a General Committee for 1871, making only a few unimportant changes in the present membership.

RUDOLPHE CHALLENGES DION.

Rudolphe challenges Cyrille Dion to a game of billiards, 2,500 points for $1,000, between the 25th and 31st, of this month.

The executors named in the will of the late Hon. Thaddeus Stevens having refused to file an inventory of the estate, a citation was issued by the county clerk there to do so. The case is now occupying the attention of the Orphans' Court of that county. This action was taken by the officials on account of the fact that the immediate amount of taxes are due the county from the State, and a collateral inheritance tax due the State. Mr. Stevens will is said to be a singularly indefinite document to emanate from such a man. Under it nearly all the estate passed into the hands of the executors, to be held until certain remote contingencies are fulfilled, which may not happen during their life time. The Harrisburg *Patriot* intimates that the discovery of a large amount of Pacific Railroad bonds among the assets of Mr. Stevens may account for the refusal of the executors to file an inventory of the property.

SECOND EDITION.

4 O'CLOCK, A. M.

THE WAR.

ACTIVITY OF THE FRENCH.

French Successes Near Havre.

GERMANS RETIRE BEFORE HEAVY FRENCH FORCES.

Heavy Losses by Ducrot in Recent Sorties.

Body of Mobiles Defeated at Fouquet.

ENGLAND.

German Soldiers Tired of the War.

LONDON, December 31.—The German authorities at Versailles accuse the French of paying 750 francs each to a French officer escaping from captivity and breaking parole. A dispatch from Arras brings the report that German soldiers on their march to the north of France openly declare themselves tired of the war.

German Loss in the Bombardment of Fort Avron.

LONDON, December 31.—The loss of the besieging forces during the bombardment of Fort Avron on the 27th is reported to have been 8,000.

Columns sent forward by General Chanzy report that the Prussians are falling back on Paris. In an engagement near Brieue yesterday the French gained a victory over 2,500 Germans.

The *Moniteur* says the dispatch from Prussian headquarters announcing that the city of Tours asked for a Prussian garrison is an absurd falsehood.

The *Moniteur* says the 20th represent that the larger portion of the army of Prince Frederick Charles has reached the lines of the besiegers of Paris and joined Italie.

It is reported that Beaune Poire has formed in Paris a corps of 12,000 men, who have sworn to cut their way through the Prussian lines and organize a levy in the provinces.

Bombardment of Meung—Battle Expected in Eastern France.

LONDON, January 1.—The siege artillery arrived before Meung yesterday, and the bombardment of the place has commenced.

A battle is expected in Eastern France, near Hericourt, between General Trescow and 10,000 Frenchmen. General Manteuffel reports that on Saturday last 4 battalions left Rouen. They encountered a French brigade, and drove it into the castle of Robert la Diable, which was subsequently stormed by the Prussians. The French loss was 100 killed and prisoners.

Arms for France.

QUEENSTOWN, January 1.—A French vessel from an American port, laden with arms, has arrived in Bantry Bay, and is carefully watched by the German corvette Augusta.

FRANCE.

The Prussians Retire before Advancing French Forces.

BORDEAUX, December 31.—The towns of Amiens, Gray, and Vesoul had been evacuated by the Prussians before the advance of the French under Generals Bressalls, Brewes and Garibaldi. The army at Bordeaux is to march directly on Paris. As the French advance the inhabitants hasten to their ranks and this the Journal des Debats regards as numbers. The smaller towns now resist the enemy, as soon as they appear. The Prussians entered Gray to combat at Tours was not occupied by the Germans. At Argent and Cog the Prussians were repulsed by the French.

General Ducrot's Losses—The Army to be Reconstructed.

PARIS, December 31.—The losses which were sustained by General Ducrot's army during the late sorties against the German forces from the city have been so heavy and serious as to render it necessary to reorganize the whole system of defense. In this view, General Blanchard's division has been broken up and General DeMaroy's division has been transferred to the command of the 13th army, under General Vinoy, both Generals Blanchard and Vinoy only holding their old commands.

Out of forty-seven Sisters of Charity attending the small-pox hospital, eleven have died.

The French Victory.

HAVRE, December 31.—General Roy yesterday carried the Prussian position on the heights of Bouille, Orival and Chateau Robert. The affair lasted six hours and 1,500 Germans fell.

Further accounts from Havre admit that the Prussians retired from Bolbec, but that the latter place were afterwards driven back with considerable loss. The French assert that the Prussians at one time occupied Lillebonne, but the latter place the French ceased, but as a party approached the enemy to receive it, they were received into it point blank range, and the battle resumed.

Gardes Mobile Defeated at Fouquet.

ALBANY, December 31.—The Gardes Mobile of General Manteuffel's army encountered and defeated three battalions of Gardes Mobiles at Fouquet, with small loss, taking ten officers and two hundred and fifty prisoners.

Great Quantities of Munitions Found in Fort Avron.

VERSAILLES, December 31.—Great quantities of munitions of war were found abandoned in Fort Avron. Two companies of saxons have advanced as far as Nonancourt.

General Faidherbe Again in Motion.

BORDEAUX, December 31.—General Faidherbe, commanding the Army of the North, is again in motion. In the east the Prussians continue to retreat before the French advance. It is reported that the Prussian cavalry has become almost useless since the recent severe cold and frost, as the horses are often shod. In consequence of the severe weather and the difficulty of keeping their communications open, the Prussians have given up the position reserved in Montdidier.

Ducrot's Reconnoissance in Force.

HAVRE, January 1.—Gen. Pelletingeau has issued a proclamation, addressed to the army and people of Havre, filled with warlike exhortations and encouragement.

A reconnoissance in force was made to-day in the direction of Bailleu. There was some fighting with the Prussian cavalry and foot, and the latter lost one killed and the Germans twenty-five killed, eighteen wounded and eight prisoners.

Short Loss at Mt. Avron.

BORDEAUX, January 1.—It is officially explained that the fort on Mt. Avron was not casemated, and as the men had no protection, general Trochu ordered the abandonment of the guns, and exploded the works. The fort was not injured by the incessant firing of the Prussians, and did not cost the lives of eight killed and twenty wounded during the bombardment.

A dispatch to the London *Times*, reporting that Trochu is forming an intrenchment camp around Paris, with which to withdraw the whole French army into it and evacuating Paris is pronounced a silly invention.

Great crowds of people made demonstrations in favor of the Government here to-day. For hours they cheered Gambetta and his colleagues. Gambetta addressed the crowd from a balcony.

Everything Ready for the Bombardment.

Special to the Herald.]

VERSAILLES, December 27.—Everything is ready for the bombardment of the most terrific scale. Batteries are established in a semi-circle around the devoted city.

The affair at Avron was simply a prelude to the startling drama. No officers except the attaches of the headquarters are allowed to visit the lines at the front. The artillery has commenced firing on the French outposts.

French Victory on the Loire.

BORDEAUX, January 1.—General Chanzy announces that General Jouffroy attacked the enemy on the left bank of the Loire, near Vendome, and completely defeated them, taking 400 prisoners. General Chanzy adds that he will follow up the success and continue the forward movement.

PRUSSIA

Prussian Reinforcements.

Special to the Herald.]

BERLIN, December 29.—The Prussians are now sending to the front the Landwehr of the second ban, aged forty-two and forty-three years, and it is considered that the utmost effort which Germany is capable of exerting is being made. Though the system of supplying the vast army is admitted to be admirable, it cannot obviate the dissatisfaction and distrust which exists in considerable sections of territory. Notwithstanding offers of concession, the victualing and clothing of troops, popular instinct appreciates the difficulty of the situation in its proper light. Although no sign of discouragement is perceptible, the former enthusiasm has ceased to exist. A rose color tint is given to all official accounts, so that only from private sources can it be seen that the hospitals around Versailles contain 9,000 sick and wounded.

Count Bismarck, of the delegation of the Reichstag to Versailles, it is now admitted, was premature. They received an indefinite reply from the King.

The threatening aspect of the Luxemburg question, and the hostile demonstrations of Austria and Switzerland arouse. The Germans are demanding the strictest neutrality. The Germans have destroyed the railroad from Lyons to Basle, and have stopped all traffic with the frontier. The oppression of the Swiss journals is of various kinds, more than ever, and the least complaint on their part visited by wholesale confiscation. General Falkenstein has taken up a strategic survey of the Swiss passes found on his coast district.

The Prussians have an Asiatic marine station at Sargow, on the south coast of Aram, met with little favor at first in the Reichstag, but now, however, finds favor from all parties. The annexation of the post is supported by the Bremen and Thuringian deputies. Sargow is the port to which Aram are now conceded to be healthy and it is proposed to place the garrison, which consists of Siamese troops, under the command of European officers. The last news from Sargow is that the French Governor of Cochin-China, by order of the Queen, has given notice to all Frenchmen to quit the place forthwith.

Interviews with Napoleon.

WILHELMSHOHE, December 29.—The present is the severest winter experienced here for many years. The temperature at the castle last week was Court Bonville, former Prefect of Bordeaux. He was here two days with a mysterious attache of the English embassy at Berlin, and a number of Mr. French. Both had repeated and lengthy interviews with the Emperor. Rumor attributes to them a secret mission from the Prussian Government to the Emperor relating to the convocation of the French Councils General. Notwithstanding the severe weather and snow storms, the Emperor takes daily walks and rides. On Christmas several hundred persons gathered around the Castle to see use of Napoleon. The Emperor begged Von Artel, chief of the Prussian Staff, to present Von Artel his ardent wishes for Queen Augusta. He has not, however, yet used them. He has been out twice skating.

EASTERN QUESTION.

The United States and Russia.

LONDON, December 31.—The *Post's* Moscow correspondent says the friendly alliance between the United States and Russia, in case of war, is becoming about universal.

Conference Postponed.

LONDON, January 1.—The Foreign Office announces that the conference of the European Powers has been postponed a few days to await the arrival of Jules Favre, and also that their Plenipotentiaries are to receive further instructions.

Aid for France.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 31.—The French sent the following to Gambetta yesterday: "A New Year's gift to France of the Frenchmen of California, one hundred thousand francs for national defense. *Vive la France, Vive la Republique.* For the Central Committee of California, C. Fairchild." It received he day an enthusiastic reply from Gambetta.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

Seventy Buildings in the Center of Millin, Pa., Burned—Loss Estimated at from $150,000 to $200,000.

MIFFLIN, PA

The Daily Commercial.

MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 1871.

No paper will be issued from the COMMERCIAL office to-morrow, the day being the one which the community generally will observe with festivities appropriate (we hope) to the season. To one and all we extend the congratulation—A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MR. THOMAS HUGHES, a few days ago, gave some account of his American tour to a number of his friends and former students, assembled at the Workingmen's College in London. Two or three of the statements he made are interesting. "Much to the disgust of the German emigrants," he said, "their children will speak nothing but English, the Yankee element being too strong for the Teutonic." When visiting the Cornell University at Ithaca, he found "seven hundred young fellows, rough from the woods and prairies of the west," engaged in study, while earning their living by honest labor. Of these young men the former Oxford Professor, GOLDWIN SMITH, is able to say that they are "the best material for scholars he has ever had in his rooms, lads who come with so earnest a desire to work that he finds it a pleasure to be among them." From another statement in Mr. HUGHES's little address we infer that he has discovered the true reason why American young men are less devoted to and less skilled in sports than the same class in England. Time is more precious here than it is there. Among the lessons taught by "Poor Richard" few are better remembered or more regarded than the saying that Time is money.

THE scheme which it is reported the New York "stringency" combination will attempt to carry into effect all this week, will afford Secretary BOUTWELL an opportunity to exert the influence he has the power to exert to break it down and turn the tables on the conspirators. It is fully expected that, should it become necessary, he will not hesitate to use the power which he has in his hands to frustrate their purposes. To-morrow the Government will disburse, as shall be demanded, $28,000,000 in gold interest on the national debt, between four and five millions more in payment of United States sixes, and $2,000,000 in currency—in all, $38,000,000 currency. During the month of January not much if any less than $200,000,000 will be disbursed in interest and dividends, by States, cities and corporations, which will speedily find its way into the various channels of trade. For the moment a stringency may be felt by drawing down balances to accomplish these operations, of which the conspirators will attempt to take advantage, but take all in all there would appears to be no good reason why in the financial as well as in the social world HAPPY NEW YEAR should not be a cheerful greeting.

AN interesting little book might be written in illustration of the various ways, direct and indirect, in which the United States have exerted and are exerting influence upon Europe. Besides the impression produced by the mere example of successful popular government, an impression abundantly acknowledged in the misrepresentations and calumnies by which the ruling classes have endeavored to counteract it with the multitude, there has been more propagandism than many suppose. In connection with this subject we do not remember to have seen any mention of the establishment of Sunday schools on the European Continent. Though the Sunday School system is claimed as of English origin, it has been most completely developed in this country, and if not derived from abroad, would certainly have been invented among us. The Sunday school movement, as a popular institution, began on the continent of Europe only twelve or thirteen years ago. It received its impulse from this country, and has been throughout moulded and directed by the influence of American example and teaching, and in spite of the powerful prejudices and opposition which the movement everywhere encountered, its progress has been rapid, and it may now be considered as firmly established. In Italy more than seventy such schools are now in operation, and the institution has been introduced into Spain. As a mere educational agency its results are likely to be important among the people, without reference to the religious aspects of the subject.

THE Pennsylvania Legislature will meet at Harrisburg to-morrow. The fall and late special election in the First Senatorial District has transferred the Senate to the Democrats, who promise to use their power in favor of measures for which Reform Republicans have contended—retrenchment and economy and the faithful enforcement of the laws. If they do this the change may not prove a public calamity. Less interest attends the immediate opening of the session than on some previous occasions, owing partly to the changed complexion of the Senate and the apparent general agreement among Republicans as to the organization of the House. There may be some more animation attending the choice of Treasurer by-and-by. The Republican caucus nomination is likely to fall to MR. MACKEY, as it did last year; but whether this will give him the office, as it did not then, is yet to be determined. Governor GEARY's message will be read to-day, and we expect to print it in our next issue. The session itself when once under way, will propably be one of unusual interest, chiefly on the proposition for a constitutional convention and the redistricting of the State. The early passage of a bill providing for the convention is altogether probable, and the Democratic leaders profess themselves entirely willing to agree promptly to a fair apportionment. A convention cannot fail of reforming many an abuse. It will bring the State into sympathy with the spirit of progress which characterizes the present day—a step that will be a great victory over an order of politicians whose power for evil will be broken.

AMONG American colleges Yale is one of the three or four which may be justly said to possess a national interest. It is so old, its graduates are so widely diffused in places of trust and honor, and for several reasons it has been so conspicuous through so long a period of the history of the country that its distinguished position is universally recognized. Not only by its graduates but by its example, as the model after which other institutions of the kind are formed, its influence is great, and hence its fortunes may with reason be a subject of interest to all who feel any concern regarding the education of the people. As a mere matter of news also it is worth mentioning that Yale College, for so many years the embodiment of conservatism and apparently placed above the mere suggestion of other change than that effected by addition, is at length assailed by innovators. The attack upon the venerable institution is made by a party of its sons who call themselves o are called by others "Young Yale." After long preliminary deliberation, the first assault was delivered, we understand, during last commencement week by a prominent graduate, in the presence of the assembled authorities and dignitaries of the College. Its immediate effect was a flutter rather than a sensation. The need of reform in the constitution affirmed on that occasion was believed at the time to have not more than two or three supporters. From many communications on the subject which have since appeared in the New York newspapers, it is evident that this notion was erroneous, though there is no reason to believe that the innovators are very numerous. Precisely what change they desire is not exceedingly clear, farther than the ousting of certain Congregational preachers of Connecticut, who, by the terms of the charter, exercise a controlling influence in the selection of the faculty, and in regulating the course of study. It is alleged by the innovators that by the influence of these clerical directors, professionally disqualified for advancing with the time, the college is seriously injured, retained in the groove of a hundred years ago and kept from adopting the improvements and entering fully into the spirit of the present day. Conservatives outside have rather pleased than grieved to see the clergymen of Connecticut and their qualifications brilliantly defended and their assailants made a little ridiculous by Dr. BACON, calling himself the "Rev. Mr. PICKERING, of Squashville." Nor was it less gratifying to see it proved, in another communication, that "Young Yale" had been carrying on the agitation in ignorance of many of the simplest facts essential to a just judgment of the question.

Indeed a certain puerility has marked a good deal of "Young Yale's" championship, as in making a grievance against the college out of the facts that President GRANT has sent his son to Cambridge instead of New Haven, and that TOM HUGHES favored the boys at Harvard with a speech, while, perhaps, he was not invited to Yale. After all, however, much that has been urged by the innovators finds sympathy in influential quarters, and the agitation is not likely to cease without having produced some effect upon the college at which it is directed.

D. N. WHITE, Esq, who has been for some time past maturing a bill to reform the salaries of county officers, and require the payment of the fees into the county treasury, has modified the original draft so as to meet the objection which has been raised to curtailing the fees of those officers elected prior to the fall of 1870. The salaries fixed in the bill are: Sheriff, $6,000; Prothonotary, $5,000; Clerk of the Quarter Sessions, $3,000; Recorder, $2,500; Clerk of the Orphans' Court, $2,000; Coroner, $2,000; Register, $1,500—these figures, of course, are subject to consultation with other members of the delegation, but it is believed they will not be materially altered. Under the modified bill, all fees are to be paid into the County Treasury, monthly, under oath. All officers elected prior to 1870, are to draw out, on regular warrants, the full amount of fees which they pay in. The officers elected in October, 1870, and all others hereafter elected, are to pay in, in fees, an amount equal to the amount of their respective salaries before they can draw out the amount of their salary, and if the fees fall below the amount of the salary, then they and their clerks shall receive only the *pro rata* of the amount paid in; and all above the salaries goes to the credit of the county. A fair allowance is made for clerk hire, and there will be a provision granting the Judges of the Common Pleas, on petition, authority to allow additional clerk hire when required. The reason for requiring the old officers to pay their fees into the treasury, and then draw them out again, is to inaugurate the *system* uniformly at the same time. The bill also contains suitable provisions regulating the county printing.

EUROPEAN OUTLOOK.

Affairs in Europe present a very troubled and stormy aspect, and even the instrumentality devised and applied for the preservation of peace, at present seems likely to produce only fresh complications. The London Conference, from whose deliberations such advantageous results were expected, even if it has not been indefinitely postponed, as reported, is likely to find the resolutions already adopted too decided, and the passions for some time prevailing too vehement for diplomatic control or management. Indeed, it has always been difficult for disinterested parties to comprehend how a conference in the actual situation of Europe, should accomplish anything of importance. So far as the treaty of 1856 is concerned, the great object of the London meeting was to save appearances, and to make the action of Russia in nullifying the objectionable stipulation look as if sanctioned by the other parties to the engagement. As if to make that effect impossible, it is perfectly well understood that Russia entertains no thought of receding from the declarations of the GORTSCHAKOFF letter, and hence the certain failure of one object of the intended conference must have been evident in London some time ago. Another object of the meeting was supposed to be the exertion of influence in favor of peace between France and Germany. The hopelessness of such attempts must also have been clear, in view of the Prussian resolution expressed by BISMARCK, to admit of no interference from foreign powers in determining the course of the struggle, or the conditions of peace. In fact, the only subjects which the conference might seem to have any call to discuss, were from the first excluded from the programme. Both Russia and Prussia appear to have agreed to the measure simply because they could not decently refuse, but did all they could beforehand to render it of no account. France under the weight of her many calamities, might have been expected to enter eagerly into the project. While it has been favored by the advocates of a monarchy in that country, the Republicans have always regarded the proposed conference with distrust, and it is no surprise that the French Government declines to participate in its proceedings without the prior recognition of the Republic. A sense of their own dignity as well as their own advantage doubtless dictated this step. The hopes of success against the invaders with which they are at present animated, partly rest upon the spirit of republican propagandism among themselves and of republican sympathies in neighboring countries. They assert and perhaps believe that the war is only beginning, and that *a republican contagion is spreading* from France destined *soon to set* the entire continent in *flames*. In the presence of such hopes, their interest in doubtless small in a conference not one year ago, to consider what to do with the other diplomatists whose hand in the pudding it was found in the past, and whose efforts would be directed to quiet the people under established institutions. In connection with the contest in France and with the confidently expressed hopes of the French leaders, the violence of republican feeling in Spain as shown by late events and the alleged strength of the republican party there are full of interest, and important developments may be confidently expected. Under the restraints resting upon them the democrats in Germany make a poor show, and while German successes in France continue, much need not be expected from them. In case of reverses, things would, however, assume a new aspect.

In anticipation of such contingencies we may easily believe that the royal houses of Prussia and Russia are prepared to co-operate in the interest of conservatism. Fresh proof of their alliance is afforded in the late announcement that Roumania, governed by a Hohenzollern, has repudiated the treaty of 1856. And in this same connection peculiar interest possibly attaches to the report that England is prepared to send a fleet to the Black Sea, regardless of consequences. Evidently the situation of European affairs is beyond the reach of remedy by a diplomatic conference in London, or elsewhere. Whether a general war is to be the outcome of the complications remains to be seen.

THE carelessness of a Legislature years ago must be blamed for the disgraceful way the settlement for debt is still possible in New York. By a legislative oversight the petty District Courts of the cities of the State have power to arrest a man for debt on the simple affidavit that he intends to leave the county. If judgment is obtained, the same affidavit seems to keep in jail till the debt is paid or the man dies. Strangely enough there seems to be no writ of *habeas corpus* to apply to this case. Under this law a German peddler from somewhere up the river, in the city on business, was seized and put in Ludlow street jail, where he remains, for a debt of about $200, which he incurred honestly, is willing to pay, but cannot, because he has not the money and cannot get out of jail to earn it—and the lawyers have not yet found that there is any way to get him out.

THE New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, claiming that the wants of 17,000,000 of American citizens and the commerce of more than $500,000,000 demand improved communication with the outer world through the Mississippi river, have memorialized Congress for the construction of a ship canal between the Mississippi river at some point near Fort St. Philip, on the left bank, to a deep water point at or off Breton Island in the Gulf of Mexico. It is suggested that the Teche, of Nobbleh, the Atchafalaya and many streams, that must be constantly renewed, and is even subject to interruption from accidental causes, which the cost of a canal, which can never be taken away nor be lost by failure to renew annually the outlay for its operation, can be no more than the present annual appropriation kept up forever. An immediate survey of the proposed location is asked; also that the appropriation be made at the present session.

THE failure of the Oakes Ames Plow Company is a notable affair. The concern was one of the greatest manufacturers in the country, and the leading member of its corporation had a national reputation, although more as a director of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, and trustee of the Credit Mobilier, than as a member of Congress. Very many will be disposed to regard it as retributive justice that the failure is the direct result of the Union Pacific Company's attempt to wrong the government out of the interest on the subsidy, which first gave the company life. Had the company quietly paid the claims as in equity they should, it is not probable that the sharp decline, which followed Attorney General AKERMAN's opinion, would have occurred, and Mr. Ames' plow works might have been carried through "on the $2,000,000 of Union Pacific stock, which proved its destruction.

THE Philadelphia *Evening Telegraph* sees in the labors of Mr. Welsh, in exposing the abuses in the Indian Bureau, the true road to reform. That journal thinks that "it is deeply to be regretted that all departments of the nationality, State and city governments cannot be overlooked in a similar manner by intelligent, industrious and incorruptible citizens." Is there not danger that, aside from its expense, even such Commissions as that to which Mr. Welsh belongs will degenerate into places for the mere politicians if they are multiplied and made permanent? It would seem a safer remedy, because more simple, to adopt a civil service reform that will secure "intelligent, industrious and incorruptible" officials, so that supervisory commissions shall not be necessary.

Those who fear the influence of railway combinations in their power to oppress the people through manipulation of State Legislatures, have been talking of appealing for relief to Congress, to ask it to exercise its exclusive constitutional power "to regulate commerce among the several States," and "to establish postoffices and post roads." But we fear that the railroads have taken time by the forelock in the matter. The decision gained by the Pennsylvania and Ohio Road over the State of Maryland recently turned in the road's favor upon this principle, and now the Chicago and North Western Company invoke its aid in their behalf in a case against them in the Iowa Supreme Court. H. E. J. Boardman brought suit to recover $400 statute penalties, for freight charges made by the company in violation of the Iowa law providing that, in the month of September of each year, every railroad shall fix its rates of freights and fare, which shall be posted up, and so remain during the year. For receiving higher rates of freight and fare than thus established certain penalties are exacted. Not only is the general constitutional right of Congress to regulate inter-State commerce set up in defense, but specific reference is made to an act of Congress, of June 15, 1866, where, by every railroad in the United States which is operated with steam, is authorized to convey passengers and freight on their way from any State to another, and to receive compensation therefor. In this case the Iowa law is presented whether the State can interfere to regulate the price of freight going from this State to another, or coming from another State to this, or passing from another State through Iowa to a third State. The railroad companies in thus placing their interests within the control of the National Legislature, are taking a step they may repent.

THE Boston *Transcript* thinks that there is probably less legislative corruption in New England than in other sections of the Union. The first reason assigned is the great number of legislators, a usage maintained for two reasons, one that there is thought to be safety in a multitude from bribery, and the other that it has been found that the Legislature was a good place to educate men for public service. Gentlemen who have been to the general court, make better selectmen, overseers of the poor, assessors, and members of school committees, than persons who have never held official positions outside their own neighborhoods.

Comparison is made with the Legislatures of New York and Pennsylvania, which are generally believed to be the most corrupt, and which are the largest in proportion to the population. New York has 32 Senators and 128 Representatives; Pennsylvania 33 Senators and 100 Representatives; Massachusetts 40 Senators and 240 Representatives; Maine 31 Senators and 151 Representatives; Ohio 37 Senators and 105 Representatives; Missouri 34 Senators and 200 Representatives; California 40 Senators and 80 Representatives; Vermont 30 Senators and 241 Representatives. With about one-fourth the population of New York, Vermont has nearly double the number of members of her Legislature. New Hampshire has a larger House and smaller Senate than any of the other States; the former consists of 338 members, and the latter of only 12.

THE Philadelphia *North American* finds in the extensive privileges conferred upon the Credit Mobilier by the charter from the Pennsylvania Legislature, "a fair specimen of the unlimited power of the granted away by successive Legislatures of this Commonwealth, and it is no exaggeration to say that when the constitution shall be so amended as to prohibit all further special legislation, the past acts are so vast and various that charters may be dug up at Harrisburg and reinvigorated to do anything at all. There is scarcely a line of railway that will not be found covered by some charter; and, indeed, there are some railway charters that authorize lines anywhere." The *American* suggests that if anybody is to make a fortune out of the Pennsylvanians themselves should be shrewd enough to hunt them up, instead of leaving them for a "desperate set of New York schemers to light upon and give life to," and it remarks that a search into the vault of the Commonwealth "will reveal many things in this line that are now totally unknown, and save many persons useless boring of the Legislature for special acts for corporation purposes." Is it unreasonable to hope that the Legislature may act for the people first in this matter, by appointing a committee to ascertain and report what charters and special privileges are unused and dormant, and by repealing them?

MANY sensible improvements in regard to New Year's calls will be made in New York to-day. Special invitations are to be issued; no gentlemen is to bring a stranger with him; refreshments are to be served in the dining room, where servants are to preside over them, and finally coffee instead of wine is to be the drink. The occasion is to be made one of greeting love and friendship, but free drinking and drinking at numberless "free lunches." One other improvement that is recommended to ladies who will insist upon offering liquors to their visitors, is that in place of a private bar-room in her parlor, the hostess shall make arrangements with some neighboring "Shades" and distribute to her callers orders upon it, not good until, say 11 P. M. By the time the scions of our first families have made their rounds, the accumulation of tickets would be sufficient for the loudest sort of spree, while this desirable end could be accomplished without subjecting ladies to the rudeness and horrid sights too frequent in respectable parlors on New Year's nights.

IT would be a curious and instructive book, and no small one either, that would collect the rights, wrongs, robberies, outrages and murders, the fires and destructions of property that have occurred in these present holidays by "Christmas drunks," or and that are still to be on account of "New Year's customs." The record would be so frightful that it would scarcely help to benefit mankind. Those who, as in New York city, are circulating a paper calling upon the heads of families to abstain from offering their New Year's visitors intoxicating liquors; also, a memorial to the State Legislature, praying that the drinking saloons be closed up on the 1st of January, the same as on election days. And is there not need of such a movement here? Let those who think otherwise visit the lock-up on this city on New Year's night, and then remember that they offer liquors to their New Year's callers they are helping them on to the courses of intemperance which bring men and women to the wretched condition of the creatures that crowd the city prison.

ALTHOUGH "charity covereth a multitude of sins," it should not therefore be used only as an occasional cloak for our wickedness. In point of fact we have to have with us, and while it is a sacred duty to provide for them, fortunately the way that is best for them is easiest for us. System in alms-giving is too little understood, and at this time affords an example of how it will be well to think about and adopt it. Its advantages are well illustrated in the case of a company of young ladies, who met in an Eastern city not one year ago, to consider what to do with the aid of the five million Presbyterian memorial fund. Each agreed to take a missionary box for children's contributions, to be made on the morning of each Sabbath of the year. Those boxes, ninety-two in number, have been opened, and seven of them were found to contain over one hundred dollars each; twenty over fifty dollars each; the total amount proved to be $6,200, all the result of systematic giving in small amounts.

THE weather of the week that has past and of that coming next, is singularly, if not satisfactorily explained by the New York *Herald*, which says that a cold spell about Christmas is nothing extraordinary, "because the earth, in its daily revolutions on its axis, and in its yearly circuit around the glorious sun, comes about the 23d of December to what we may call a careen from the northward, like that of a ship tacking on a high wave. Hence these rough, cold winds from the North Pole about Christmas. Within eight or ten days, the earth having righted upon her keel again, we have the reactionary winds from the south, and hence the warm spell about New Year, with its snow, sleet, thaw, rain, and slush."

WE congratulate Philadelphia that she at last has taken the legal steps preparatory to having a paid fire department. Mayor Fox, in a speech on Friday night, said that while undecided as to what course he was to pursue in the premises a gentleman called on him and urged the following language with the little God's sake, Mr. Mayor, sign that bill. I have a son in the Eastern Penitentiary who owes his fall to the demoralizing influences of the volunteer department." These emphatic words, said his Honor, led him to reflect more fully on the measure, and in the end to give it his approval. His decision will doubtless prove a wise one.

THE Rev. Mr. Sabine, of the Church of the Atonement, refused to bury the venerable George Holland, simply because he was an actor. He promptly refused, without stopping to consider that Mr. Holland had always been a most generous and worthy man, and that the Holland family had for years been members of the Church of the Atonement. Mr. Sabine forgot that his Master said: "He that is without sin among you let him first cast a stone." Mr. Sabine's standing may be said to be now certainly fixed if it was not before.

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON, Mr. Longfellow and Gerrit Smith are among those who have written to Senator Sumner approving his course on San Domingo. Gerrit Smith, whose earnest devotion to the best interests of the blacks is beyond question, takes the ground that the American tropics are the natural home of the negro and mixed races, and that our duty is to protect and not occupy those regions. Such a policy would suit those also whose dislike to the blacks is beyond question.

A BILL has been introduced into the United States Senate, which, if passed, will give marine insurance companies much more power than at present. It requires that all masters and mates of sea-going vessels shall be navigators; that they shall, on the annual, an official certificate from a board of underwriters, the result of an examination. A penalty of $500 is to be imposed upon any insurance company writing a policy upon a vessel, or any part of its cargo, sailed by officers not properly certified to.

THE New York State canals have not proved, under Democratic management, formidable rivals to the iron roads. Their trade has been greatly cut by the reduction in freights, and consequently the revenue has fallen very far short of the expenditures. It is stated from Albany that the Auditor's report will assert, with more than usual Democratic candor, that the management has proved "an utter failure."

IS IT true that D. M. Van Auken, Democratic member of Congress from the Eleventh District of this State is in the habit of franking the mail matter of the Pike county officials? It's a small matter so far as money goes, but if true, it is a public example of the abuses that make the Postoffice Department an annual burden, instead of a source of revenue.

IT is a fearful thing to be told of Washington city, which is that for 1871 it promises to be the resort of many persons, after New Year's, who have usually made Paris and other gay cities of Europe their home during the winter season.

THE New York Fire Department has notified the proprietors of the large hotels to place escapes upon their buildings. What has been done here in the same way, and to prevent a repetition of the Spotswood Hotels horrors?

IT is understood that Senator Howe, of Wisconsin, on the reassembling of Congress, will introduce a bill to establish a free National University in the District of Columbia. The various public establishments existing in Washington point to the capital as the most appropriate location for such an institution, and Mr. Howe's practical common sense and long familiarity with the subject of education well qualify him for carrying the movement to a successful issue. His plan points to the combination of advantages to be obtained from the Patent Office, the Congressional Library, the Smithsonian Institute, the National Observatory, the Medical Museum, the Coast Survey, the Museum of Records of the War and National Portraits, &c., &c.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

One family of immigrants by the last steamer from Scotland consisted of a man, his wife, and nine children, all but one of whom are girls, and the eldest only 25 years of age! The grandmother on the mother's side, a lady aged only 89 years, also accompanies them.

Robert Scott, a Franklin county, Kentucky, farmer, has a flock of nearly two hundred Cashmere or Angora goats, all produced by crossing the pure breed Angora bucks with the native of "common females, now deep enough in the blood" to produce wool long enough to be shorn and manufactured. The stock has cost him almost nothing; the sales which have been made have netted him the meat and skins of the males and wethers from the flock from time to time in the course of its production having remunerated all expenses. This year both the goats' wool and the sheep's wool were shorn and handled alike, and the former produced 85 cents and the latter 25 cents per pound.

Harvard University now has ninety-two officers of instruction and government, with two professorships to be filled. In addition to all these there are annually appointed an instructor in political economy, a tutor in French and history, fourteen university lecturers, four lecturers in the law school, three instructors in the medical school, eight lecturers in the medical school, and twelve lecturers in the dental school. An under graduate's necessary expenses are from $353 to $581, a law student's $492 to $439, a theologian's $298. There are seventy-one scholarships, ranging in annual income from $75 to $600. The libraries have 187,000 volumes. There are 608 undergraduates, as follows: Seniors, 156; juniors, 122; sophomores, 139; freshmen, 189; graduate scholars, 2; resident graduates, 5; divinity students, 57; law students, 154; scientific students, 35; students in the school of mining, 7; medical students, 301; dental students, 27; attendants on the university lectures, 154. Total, 1,316.

The two United States naval vessels, the Swatara and Nantucket, which have been in San Domingo waters for the past two years, have had but few cases of sickness, and those of a slight character, on board, and this is thought to disprove the assertion that San Domingo is one of the unhealthiest places in the world.

At the St. Louis arsenal there is a large accumulation of ordnance and ordnance stores of all kinds. The property, including one thousand large guns, lead, small arms, projectiles of all kinds, artillery harness, horse equipments and cavalry accoutrements, is valued at from ten to fifteen millions of dollars.

Vermont is still two generations behind the times, having fifty-three stage routes.

Skating promises to be more fashionable than ever in New York this winter, and it is well that it should.

There are one thousand head of diseased cattle in Hoboken county, N. Y., and the milk business of the county is seriously endangered.

California records for 1870 will include three memorable industrial events—the shipment of the first bale of home-raised silk; the raising of the first successful crop of cotton, leading to the planting of several large tracts to that staple, and the first success in the manufacture of beet sugar.

The ice on Saratoga Lake is already seven inches thick, and sporting men propose to have four days trotting there, beginning January 17.

Some years ago a pensioner in one of the western States in a patriotic mood, surrendered his pension and declared that he would not take the Government when he could support himself. Last week he made application for another pension.

Montreal is a quiet city and not to disturb its slumbers, the city fathers have enacted that no wheeled vehicles come within its limits.

The New York *Tribune* means stove pipe hat when it says "the familiar cylindrical appurtenance."

The new Catholic Church of St. Ann's, dedicated in New York yesterday, is an exact copy of the celebraten Sainte Chapelle of Paris, and has been built in six months at a cost of $150,000.

The rate of taxation in Troy is nearly five and one-half per cent. of the entire property valuation, and nearly eighteen dollars for each human being in the city.

School Superintendent Duane Doty, of Detroit, says that when he first took charge of the city schools there were thirty-two thousand cases of tardiness per annum, while last year there were but four thousand.

The oldest rose-bush is said to be one which is trained upon one side of the cathedral of Hildesheim, in Germany. Its age is unknown, but documents exist which prove that it is Bishop Hezelo, nearly a thousand years ago, protected it by a stone roof, which is still extant. The largest rose-bush is a white Banksia, in the Marine Garden at London, which was sent there, the first of its kind in 1803, by Mungindi. Its numerous branches, some of which measure eighteen inches in circumference, cover an immense wall to a width of nearly sixty feet, and at times, in early spring, as many as fifty thousand flowers have been counted on this queen of all roses.

Hunt's Merchant's Magazine, after a long career of life, has disappeared by being merged into Dana's *Commercial and Financial Chronicle*, an established weekly journal of similar character.

The gambling fever is spreading. A million dollars worth of stock was to be put up at lottery in New York in aid of France.

The Mayor of San Francisco, gave his entire official income for the past year, $4,320, to public charities.

The favorite design for the back of the new issue of gold or coin notes consists of a grouping together in a very artistic manner of all the gold coins of the United States in such a manner as to show both sides of every coin.

Since the great robbery the Central Pacific Company have arranged the couplings of the cars in such a manner that they cannot be detached by any ordinary means without severing the heavy iron link or the pin. As an additional safeguard, they have substituted a copper wire rope in the place of the usual chain of rings to the signal bell of the locomotive, which passes along through the train overhead. This rope cannot be readily cut, as on the occasion referred to, and any attempt to twist it off or break it would only ring the signal bell for the train to stop. We should not all roads adopt these improvements, which might prevent accidental separations of trains, such as sometimes occur with disastrous results?

The fire in Chicago in 1870, carelessness caused 204, defective chimneys 106, incendiarism but 80, lamp and gas explosions 38. The losses were $4,326,123, all but $896,319 being covered by insurance.

PERSONAL.

The *Independent* loses its workingman in Oliver Johnson, who gives up the managing editorship. The paper speaks most feelingly of him, and says that "he was the youngest and one of the very ablest of the twelve brave men who formed the first anti-slavery society, thirty-nine years ago. At the age of twenty-two, the time at which most men are seeking their own advancement, he cast in his lot with this great cause, and through poverty and continuously he has borne the heat and burden of the day. Though now past sixty, his physical and intellectual prestige is not abated.

There is no truth in the report that Miss Charlotte Cushman will act at Booth's theatre. For very much reason, on the contrary, to believe that this admirable actress will appear no more in public.

The Cincinnati *Commercial*, too, indulges in a feminine topic of interest to the country when it says of young lady, Miss Fannie R. Sprague, left a home of ease and refinement to earn an independent living by the practice of an art requiring peculiar gifts and arduous application, and admirably has she succeeded.

R. P. Shillaber, "Mrs. Partington," is editor of Ballou's publications in Boston.

Hon. Tod R. Caldwell, acting Governor of North Carolina while Governor Holden is on trial, is a native of the State, was always a Union man, and is popular with all parties.

The name of Miss Maggie Cooper, a school teacher of Independence, Iowa, deserves to be remembered. In the wall of her school room, high above the floor, are heating registers, weighing about forty pounds each. One of them got loose and was about to fall. Miss Cooper saw there was no time to warn the little children beneath, and so ran up and caught the heavy, hot iron, thus being severely injured herself, but saving her pupils from harm.

Bismarck says: "I am a Republican, but the time has not come yet."

Vinnie Ream, the sculptor, is among the betrothed, and a Washingtonian will soon be with her among the married.

There's a touch of romance in Mrs. Belknap's story. She was a daughter of Dr. Tomlinson, of Harrodsburg, Ky., and after his death removed to Keokuk, Iowa. Her brother was an officer on Confederate General S. W. Ferguson's staff, and was captured near Meridian, Miss. In her efforts to arrange his exchange she made the acquaintance with General Belknap which resulted in their marriage not two years ago.

Augustus Maverick, a well known New York journalist, has become principal editor of the *Commercial Advertiser*.

H. K. Browne, the artist, has just completed a life-size statue, in marble, of the late Hev. George W. Bethune, D. D. It is to be placed in the Historical Society building.

Nilsson will sing even in Terre Haute, Indiana, but Pittsburgh knows not that it will hear her.

Thurlow Weed has $30,000 income yearly, and gives half of it away in charity.

One John B. Read, before the war obtained a patent on projectiles, but in 1861 he joined the rebel service, used his inventions on that side and took out Confederate patents. He has applied for an extension, his papers exhibiting the Confederate States's seal, but the acting commissioner has refused the extension, for the excellent reason of Read's service in the Confederacy.

Phillip Hardwick, R. A., who died on Friday, was a leading architect. He built the St. Catherines docks, London, and designed many of the most elegant offices in the metropolis, including Goldsmith Hall—which he ranked as his finest work—the grand entrance to the Northeastern Railway station in Euston square, the Lombard Street banking house, and the City Club House, and the great hall at Lincoln's Inn.

Justin McCarthy will surpass Dumas in the amount of his story telling, if he can keep at it. He agreed, not long since, to furnish the Messrs. Harper forty-five short stories for their periodicals. The stories were to average four thousand words each, or about seven columns of *Harper's Weekly*, and his compensation for each was one hundred dollars. He is said to have written the forty-five stories in forty-five days. During the time he was engaged upon them he was also engaged in writing for the *Atlantic Monthly*, *Lippincott's Magazine*, the *Galaxy*, the *Independent*, and several other papers, besides lecturing once a week, composing a book on America, and reading the newspaper puffs of his various articles.

Joe Jefferson asked the curator of a fashionable Madison avenue church for permission to bury Geo. Holland in their graveyard, but was told that they "didn't do that sort of thing in this neighborhood," but that his corpse would probably be afforded to "at the little church around the corner."

The Lincoln monument at Springfield, Illinois, will cost $102,750, not including the statuary in the corners of the pedestal. One hundred and fifty thousand dollars has already been raised, and the casting of the statue of Mr. Lincoln has been begun at Chicopee, Massachusetts.

At the dinner to ex-Secretary McCulloch upon his arrival in London, Sir John Rose, late of Canada, commented on the fact that he was first finance minister to the Queen at the same time that McCulloch held that relation to President Johnson; that both had abandoned politics and now met as American bankers in London.

THE following lines, said to have been copied by Dr. Cumming from an old country volume, we give as a kind of curiosity, though suspecting their more recent origin:

"In twice two hundred years, the Bear
The Crescent will assail:
But if the Cock and Bull unite,
The Bear will not prevail.

But mark, in twice ten years again—
Let lions knock and roar—
The Crescent will stand, the Crescent wane,
Dissolve and disappear."

CANADIAN ANNEXATION.

The Time Has Come—Rev. Butler Macalpine Talking It—His Plans.

General B. F. Butler has written to a prominent Canadian annexationist, and we summarize the views of the letter. The General has no doubt of the correctness of the statement that the time has come for pressing the annexation question. Here in the United States, he says, "all are entirely silent upon the question, and no party in any change of political opinion" will be found opposing it.

Indeed the difficulty is to find opposition, and he expects both parties to make it a plank in their next platforms, as we have no question of the desirableness and inevitability of the absorption of the British provinces. He suggests that when the Catholic Church of Canada becomes a part of that of the United States, united "they will be the largest body of intelligent Catholics in the world. Indeed it is not among the impossibilities that the keys of St. Peter may be transferred to this country." He says England is willing, and that his speech was made to feel England sounds the opening here, and here he makes his funny point, in asserting that it is peculiarly true that the newspapers in severely criticising his speech are no exposition of the popular mind here, because, as they now control, the vast portion of the newspaper writers of this country are Englishmen, and most of the newspapers are in the interest of the bondholders and bankers, who take alarm at anything that may possibly affect the Government's credit or lessen the worth of their bonds." In discussing plans the General again hits the newspapers, saying that it would be of no advantage to send an agent here, "because he could not come here without making it the subject of comment in the newspapers, and they are mariolts everywhere."

He recommends that annexation can best be in detail. One disaffected province should be brought to vote in favor of it, and "that once passed, I am assured that this country will take means to carry out the Monroe doctrine, which with us is traditional, and make it effectual, and one province breaking the ice and beginning annexation all would follow and the Dominion would be a piece." He recommends that a memoir be prepared setting forth "the exact state of feeling in Canada, suggesting from a Canada point of view the best means of accomplishing the object of annexation, how it is supposed the United States would take action which would aid annexation in Canada, what guarantee Canada might be supposed to require, and, in fine, all the details necessary to carry out the project," and wants it sent to him "before 'our Governor' as they say best aid the enterprise. He is open to confidential correspondence on the subject, but pays postage instead of franking his letters, that the postoffice authorities may not know who is in communication with him.

THE RICHMOND FIRE.

Lessons Which Architects, Builders and Property Owners Should Heed.

The lessons of the Richmond fire are not exhausted, nor will they be until architects and builders and property-owners heed them and act as they instruct. One account says that the efforts of the people to escape were impeded, and almost prevented, because the outer doors of the hotel opened inwardly, so that the more the crowd forced against them, the tighter they were shut. How many churches, hotels, halls and public buildings here have doors hung in the same dangerous ways. Then there were only three brick partitions through the building, and the others being of wood and plaster, were tinder for the flames. Instead of a dozen halls and ways of escape, all different and independent and available from every part of the house, there were but two passages of exit, and these were not only quite difficult to get at from the wings and other parts of the house, but they also opened together at the rotunda or office, as is too frequent in hotel buildings. If all this were not enough, there were no watchmen on the upper floors; no means to alarm the people there; no fire extinguishers about the house to extinguish fires; no arrangements for escape from the rooms, in case the imperfectly constructed halls and stairs should fail.

This is a terrible picture, indeed, but these shortcomings are all manifest, and doubtless they will be repeated again and again, as when other hotels and large buildings containing many people shall burn, and all without accomplishing anything until public opinion is aroused to the fact that it is as necessary to protect human life on the land as on the water, that hotels, theaters and churches need to be made safe, just as much as do steamboats and railway cars. But, if we are wise, we will not wait until scores of orphans are thus numbered with the half-dozen charred corpses of the Spotswood Hotel fire, and the coming winter will give to each State such statistics as are right in this matter.

A ROMANCE OF THE EAST.

How a Beautiful White Girl Became the Slave of Two Black Women, and then the Wife of Count Benedetti.

Louise Muhlbach, in her "Letters from Egypt," tells a very romantic story about the wife of Count Benedetti, the French Minister Plenipotentiary at the Prussian Court before the outbreak of the present war. A very rich Greek merchant, resident in Alexandria, had two black wives, whom he loved dearly, and for whose services he procured a large retinue of slaves and servants. All of a sudden he chanced to see a charming white girl, and was so pleased with her that she cooked her husband into buying her.

The beautiful slave became a confidential servant and companion to her negro mistresses, and contributed by herself largely to their comfort and wishes. The skin exercises a powerful influence over the stomach and bowels, and when its functions are interrupted by sudden chills, that seal the pores and prevent evaporation from the surface, internal congestion is apt to ensue. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters never fail to perform their office properly when this is the case, and the waste matter of the system, which should be discharged in part through the perspiratory glands of the skin, is thrown upon the kidneys and the bowels and the kidneys, constipation and a variety of renal diseases are more or less prevalent. Dyspepsia, where it exists, is also very troublesome, and for these causes the most efficacious, of, and remedy for, disturbances of this nature is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. Acting as a stimulant and tonic, it rouses the stomach and intestines to healthful activity, imparting to the important organs a healthful vitality and regularity. It also operates as a sedative, by toning the vessels of the skin and promoting easier passage of exhausted matter through that main-spring of life, the kidneys. Thus the system is given a healthful impulse to the action of the kidneys, where there is a tendency to dropsy, and as a blood depurent and nervine, has a highly beneficial effect in rheumatic cases. It combines in happy proportions the best of tonics and aperients, and is a diaphoretic and anti-bilious properties requisite for the restoration of a system generally disordered, and has no equal as a winter medicine.

Lubin's French Extracts
Lubin's French Soaps,
Lubin's French Sachets,
Thomas' Hair Brushes,
Bayley's Ess. Bouquet,
Low's Fine Extracts,
Low's Celebrated Soaps,
Squire's Glycerine Soap
Price's Glycerine Soap,
*Sarg's Vienna So

Jas. T. Brady & Co.,

(Successors to S. Jones & Co.)

Corner Wood and Fourth Avenue,

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

Government Securities,

GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS,

ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

Money Loaned on Government Bonds at Lowest Market Rates.

☞ Orders Executed for the Purchase and Sale of STOCKS, BONDS and GOLD.

JAS. T. BRADY & CO.

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

Cor. Fourth Ave. and Smithfield St.,

BANKERS,

DEALERS IN

Government Securities

AND

GOLD,

Collections Made on All Accessible Points

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

FOURTH AVE. AND SMITHFIELD STREET.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, December 31, 1870.

The closing day of the year finds the local money market in a very stringent condition, and what added to the increased demand and activity in the market was the necessity of providing for obligations maturing on the first and second of the new year. This induced a good deal of extra business for the various monied institutions, and there will be no reason why Monday may not be as close a holiday as Christmas Monday was.

—The New York *Herald*, in noticing the recent sharp upward turn in the Wall street market, says: "The stock market was strong under purchases of operators who were prominent in the recent hammering of the market, by which prices were forced to decline. Our disclosures yesterday as to the simulous ways of a certain venerable operator who has an old trick of abandoning his confederates when it suits his individual interests, led to recrimination and quarreling among the 'bears' generally, and to a disposition not to be left in the lurch again each to buy his own account. Rock Island being one of the stocks of which they were largely short, a rush for it ran the price up from 103½ to 105¾. Northwestern preferred was also snapped up in the same way, for a time the 'bears' were climbing over each other's shoulders in their anxiety to buy in their 'shorts.' The 'odd man's' detection revived a great deal of profanity from some of his late colleagues, to whom he lent his certified checks a week or so ago, but one whom he is now said to have played the serious joke of buying the stocks which they sold short on the strength of locking up his money. The leading spirit in the whole 'bear' movement of the past season is reported to be greatly exercised over the uncertainty of mundane affairs, particularly in the vicinity of Wall street, especially when those who are trusted and controlled by men whose monetary transactions are mixed up with religious zeal. It will be seen from this sketch of the situation that lines are very much confused in the street just now.

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	110¾
United States 6s of 1881	113½
United States 5-20s of 1862	108
United States 5-20s of 1864	107½
United States 5-20s of 1865	107½
United States 10-40s	106½
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	110¼
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	110¼
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	113½
Union Pacific Railroad	97
Central Pacific Railroad	92
Currency Pacific	119½

—The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo building, No. 80 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

December 31, 1870.	9:30 A. M.	10 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	2:30 P. M.	3 P. M.
C. & H.	93¾	93½	93½	93½	93
Do. Scrip	91¾	91¾	91¾	92	92
Erie	23½	23½	23	23¼	23
Reading	90½	90¾	90¼	90½	90¼
Harlem			131		
Mich. Cent.					
Lake Shore	90½	90½	90½	90¾	90¾
Illinois Cent.					
Clev. & Pitts.					
C. & I. W.	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾
Tol. & Wabash	49¾	49¾	49¾	49¾	49¾
Do. pref.					
Fort Wayne	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
Ohio & Miss.	28¾	28¾	28¾	28¾	28¾
Chic. & Alton		114			
Do. pref.		114½			
R. I. & Erie					
N. J. Central		104			
Canton		65			
W. U. Tel.		33			
Quicksilver		15			
Pacific Mail	40½	40	40¼	40¼	40¼
Adams Ex.		46			
Wells, F. Ex.		33			
American Ex.		53			
U. S. Ex.		53			
Gold	110½	110¼	110¼	110¼	110¾

* Ex-div.

A comparison between yesterday's and to-day's quotations shows the following changes:

	Prl.	Sat.	Adv.	Dec.
Central & Hudson	91	92	¼	
Do. Scrip	87¾	88	¼	
Erie	22¾	23¾	¼	
Reading	90	90¼	¼	
Harlem	131	131		
Illinois Central	136½	136½		
Lake Shore	92¼	92¼		¼
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	105¾	104½		1
Chicago & Northwestern	73½	73½	¼	
Do. preferred	82¾	82¾	¼	
Rock Island	106¾	105¾	¾	
St. Paul	55½	56¾	¼	
Do. preferred	80¾	74½		6¼
Toledo & Wabash	48¾	49¼	¼	
Do. preferred		95		
Fort Wayne	92½	92½	½	
Ohio & Mississippi	28½	28½	½	
Pacific Mail	40¼	40¼	¼	
Adams Express	64	64½	½	-
Gold	110½	110¾		

* Ex-dividend.

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Pennsylvania Central	62¼
Philadelphia and Erie	25½
Lehigh Navigation	57¾
Catawissa preferred	37¼
Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad	45½
Lehigh Valley Railroad	60
North Pennsylvania Railroad	46
Camden and Amboy Railroad	117½
Schuylkill Navigation	16¼
Reading	49¾

—The earnings of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad were $95,307 18 for the third week of December. This gives a *decrease* for the week of $26,397 93, as against last year, and a *decrease* of $25,762 15 for the three weeks, while the year from January 1 shows an *increase* of $219,428 52.

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), dealer in Government, State and Municipal Bonds; Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange, and buys and sells stocks on a margin for the same commission and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Money to loan in sums of $500 and upwards on collateral or will indorsed promissory notes, or on mortgages on city or Allegheny county real estate.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, January 2, 1870.

REMARKS.—Trade on Saturday was not very active. This, however, is no unusual occurrence for the last day in the week, more particularly as was the last business day of the year. In regard to operations they were not very extensive; buyers were disposed to act with caution. Produce—The receipts were fair and sales were regular; prices have undergone no material change. The weather on Saturday was disagreeable for out door transactions, the streets being in a sad plight. Flour—The market was firm with an advancing tendency. The mills are asking 25 cents per bbl. more on standard brands. This is caused by the advance in wheat. The leading houses have a good stock on hand, and are well pleased with the tendency of prices. There is, however, no disguising the fact that competition between the mills and the leading houses have not gotten down to a low figure. The receipts since our last have been 670 barrels. Groceries—The market since our last has presented nothing very new or important. The general impression is that trade will be active during the next ten days, from the fact that dealers have been holding back in order to take advantage of the new tariff, that goes into effect this day. Country merchants will find it advantageous to pay our market a visit, where all descriptions of groceries can be obtained on very reasonable terms.

The following are the wholesale prices, unless otherwise noted:

ASHES—The receipts continue fair, the supply on the market being sufficient for all ordinary purposes. We are reported sales of 83 brls pearls at 7½@7¾c.; common 4@5 cent. 2½c.; potash 7@7½c; pearls 9@9½c.

APPLE BUTTER—The supply keeps pace with the demand. Prices have undergone no change. Prices range from 60 to 70c. ₱ gallon.

APPLES—The market was firm with a fair jobbing demand. This, however, has been the case for some days. The receipts for the past two days were 299 barrels. We can report regular sales @2 75@3 00 for fair to medium; $3 50@4 00 for choice.

BAR LEAD—Sales in a regular way at 10½c. ₱ lb.

BROOM CORN—Supply liberal, sales at 5@6½c ₱ lb.

BRANS—Regular sales made at $1 70@2 25 ₱ bushel, as per quality. The latter for small lots.

BUCKWHEAT—Market firm; sales reported at 2½@2½c. ₱ lb.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—There is a fair supply, and we quote at $4 25@5 50 ₱ cwt., and $6 50@7 00 ₱ bbl.

BAKING POWDER—Dull; 1-lb cans, $1 75 ₱ doz.; 5-lb cans $8 25; 1-lb cans, $6 ₱ doz.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—The market has undergone no perceptible change. The supply is limited, the fair stock on hand, with an ample supply in smoke houses that will soon be ready for the change of season. The rates are: Shoulders, plain, 11½c; sugar cured 12½c; sides, clear, 13½c; ribbed 12½c; hams sugar cured 16@17c; canvassed, plain 16@16½c. Mess pork, $21. Dried beef 15½ ₱ lb.

BUTTER—The market was steady with a fair demand for prime quality of fresh roll. The receipts since our last were 42 packages, and for the past two days are 90 packages. We can report sales at the following: Prime to choice 30@32c; fair to medium 23@26c ₱ lb.

CHEESE—Sales of Eastern antichraste at 20@20 50 ₱ ton by the car load, delivered.

CORN MEAL—Market well supplied; sales to a small extent at $2 50@2 75 ₱ bbl.

CRANBERRIES—The supply keeps pace with the demand; we quote at Sackett's Bulk Store at $12 ₱ barrel, and other descriptions sold at $10@12@16 ₱ barrel.

CANDLES—In good supply; sales of mold at 12½c; star, full weight, 20c; short weight, 17c; sterarine ice, 16c ₱ lb.

CIDER—There is an active demand for pure cider, which commands from $6 to $8 ₱ bbl.

CONCENTRATED LYE—In good supply at $3 75@4 50 ₱ case; Philadelphia $5 75.

CANDLES—Sales of Louisville hydraulic at $3 85 ₱ barrel. Philadelphia $3 75@3 75 ₱ barrel.

CASTOR OIL—Prices are weak, with sales standard brands, in new barrels, at 90c ₱ gallon in a jobbing way, and $1 05@1 10 in small lots.

COFFEE—The market was not active. Buyers are disposed to fair hold ground. The receipts since our last were 54 sacks. The stock, however, on hand is sufficient for all ordinary purposes. We quote sales as follows: Western Reserve, 16@16½c; Ohio factory, 15½c; Rio, common, 15c; New York Golden, 16c; prime, 16½c; choice, 16¾c.

DRIED FRUIT—The market was firm, particularly for the better descriptions. Several cars of Iowa were reported on the Allegheny, but could not be transferred. Sales—Halves 11@12c; quarters 8½@9c; apples 7@8c. The supply exceeds the demand. We quote nominally at 6@6½ ₱ lb.

EXTRACTS—There is a fair demand. We quote prices as follows: Jamaica, 3 layer raisins $3 50 ₱ box; Valencia in mkins 16c ₱ lb.

FEAT—The supply is light, and though prices are quite favorable to buyers, they are very firm. We quote: Baled hay, on landing, at $14@17 50 ton; from store at $18@20 ₱ ton; oats 70@75c.

FEATHERS—Quite fair demand. We can report sales of Tennessee new crop at 60@62½c ₱ lb.

FISH—Mackerel—The market was steady, with a fair demand. The receipts were 70 head, and for the past two days 154 head. We can report sales at 7, 7½ and 8c ₱ lb.

FLOUR—The market was decidedly firmer, with a disposition on the part of holders to advance or control prices. We continue to quote as follows: White wheat, family brands, at $7 10 in barrels, $7 50 in sacks; red winter, fancy brands, $6 75 in barrels, $6 50 in sacks; Golden Ohio, brands $7 00, in barrels, $7 25 in sack; odd brands, for baker's use, $6 50 in barrels, $6 25 in sacks. Mill rates: National, (white) barrels, $7 50; in sacks $7 20; Pan Handle, (wheat) in amber; in barrels $6 85, in sacks $6 75; Southern Glory, in barrels $6 85, in sacks $6 75; Morning Harvest, in barrels $6 85, in sacks $6 75.

RAGS—The Market has undergone no change; we can report sales in a regular way at 3@4½c ₱ lb.

HIDES—Sales in a regular way at 5@5½c ₱ lb.

HOMINY—The receipts are light; we can report sales in a regular way at $3@3 25 ₱ bbl.

HONEY—The best per lb. at 28 @30c; 25 @26c; common $5 00 per bbl.

GROCERIES—We can report a quiet market and unchanged prices. Saturday's quotations reported as follows:

SUGAR—New Orleans 11¾@12c; Cuba 10@10½c; Havana, boxes, 11¾@12½c; Molasses sugar 9@9½c.

COFFEE—Rio, choice 21½c; prime 21c; good 19c; fair 18c; ordinary 17c.

Refined Sugars—Crushed, powdered and granulated 13c; Coffee C yellow 12¾@13c; Porto Rico, 11½c for fair, and 12¾c for choice.

SYRUPS—Sales of New Orleans 85c; white honey drips 55c; Lovering's 65c; silver drips 70c; golden do.; amber and lower grades 45, 50 and 60c ₱ gallon.

MOLASSES—The market is dull at 65@70c ₱ gallon, 70c; choice new, 75c.

GOLD—The market continued more dromant, with buyers more anxious to invest. The general impression is that prices have touched bottom. The receipts and sales were as follows: Wheat—In bulk, 2 sacks; rye, 31 sacks; barley, 326 sacks; wheat, 320 sacks; corn, 1,000 sacks. The current rates, with sales, were: Wheat—In mills are disposed to purchase freely at the following: Red winter $1 20@1 23 for 1; white $1 40@1 45. Oats—The market is dull and firm; we can report sales by the car load at 66@66½c; store rates 69@70c ₱ bush. Corn wanted; buyers were plenty with a slight supply on the market; ear is quoted at 66@66c; on track for mixed to prime yellow. Certain dealers holding out for 70c. Rye steady but not active; the extreme prices are 80@85c. Barley dull; nothing doing worthy of notice; spring 80@85c; fall 90@95c ₱ bushel.

LARD OIL—There is a good supply on hand, and sales No. 1 are made at $1 12; No. 2 $0@0 85c. Cincinnati and Chicago winter strained $1 13 ₱ gallon.

POULTRY—The supply is light, with a fair demand, and but for the cold weather, which has kept the market terribly dull, we quote: Dressed chickens 12@13c; ducks 12@14c; in a regular way at 8@9c; geese 8@9c. Turkeys 17@18c ₱ lb.

POTATOES—Firm; sales Peachblows at $1@1 05 ₱ bu for car load, and $1 10@1 15 from store.

SOAP—Prices are steady: Babbitt's, 11c; Oakley's, 10½c; chemical olive, 8c; rosin, No. 1, 7c.

SWEET POTATOES—The supply is light, the weather being unfavorable for shipment; Jerseys sell at $4, 50 ₱ barrel.

HONEY—Market well supplied; we can report regular sales at 30@35c ₱ lb.

HOPS—New crop being picked 22@24c ₱ lb.

LIME—Sales of Kelly, Shrewsand white at $2 25 and Eastern $1 75 ₱ bbl.

MILL STUFF—Dull. The supply exceed the demand. Quotations are so uncertain that we omit them.

RICE—Sales of North Carolina at 7½@8c.

WHISKY—The market continues quiet and firm at the following: Highwines 98c; common rectified 90c; proof rectified, 93c; in bond corn $1 07@1 10 ₱ gallon; old Monongahela whisky $4 00@4 05 ₱ gallon, and bonded, cash for 1 year.

BULK MEAT—The market was steady with a fair demand. Prices having undergone no change, we omit figures.

HOMINY—Sales of pearl at $6 25; common $5 00@5 50 ₱ bbl.

SEEDS—The market was not an active one. Wagon report small offerings of Clowersead at 10@10½c ₱ lb. Timothy—Nothing doing; prices too much for us. Flaxseed is selling in a regular way at $2 12@2 15 ₱ bushel.

SUMAC—The market is well supplied; we can report sales of Tennessee at 4½c per lb.

WILLOWS—We note sales of Kentucky Willows at 3½c ₱ lb.

TURNIPS—Regular sales at 40@50c per bushel

TALLOW—City rendered 8@8½c ₱ lb.

SAFFRON—Sales at 65@70c ₱ half gross.

SALT—The market is well supplied and sales are regularly done at $1 40@1 45 for Ashton and $1 60@1 70 per bbl —usual advance for store rates.

SODA—Sales in kegs 6c; boxes, assorted papers 8c; sal soda 3½c ₱ lb.

WOODENWARE—Following are wholesale prices per dozen: Buckets, Painted, $1 75@2 00; Tubs, No. 1, 3 hoops, $11 00; No. 2, 2 hoops, $9 50; No. 3, 2 hoops, $8 50. Washboards $3 00.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE OIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, January 2, 1871.

The following are the receipts of crude oil for the past week, with a comparison table with previous years; also, the exports of refined, together with the week's transactions:

	Receipts Crude per per Penn. R. R.	Exports Crude per per Penn. R. R.	Exports Refined per A. V. R. R.
Monday, Dec. 26	1,526	265	3,257
Tuesday, Dec. 27			
Wednesday, Dec. 28	783	1,328	3,300
Thursday, Dec. 29	2,366	1,960	1,602
Friday, Dec. 30	8,573	1,608	4,440
Saturday, Dec. 31	3,820		2,405
Total per week	11,388	4,463	12,634
Since January 1	1,039,472	187,460	606,833
To Dec. 31, 1870	1,050,810	191,923	619,235
Same time 1869	1,026,902	145,868	450,607
Same time 1868	1,062,227	188,136	589,856

BUSINESS.

The market during the week was one of considerable excitement being the last week of the year. More attention was paid to settlements that to anything else. The bulls and the bears had a very interesting time. We think it perfectly safe to predict that oil sales and operations will be carried on somewhat different in the future. It will be observed that the receipts of crude for past three years exceeds one million barrels per year. In another part of this report we publish a history of the oil receipts for the past twelve years, taken from the files of the daily COMMERCIAL. In 1859 the receipts were 7,063 barrels: in 1870 they amounted to 1,039,472.

CRUDE RECEIPTS.

The following are the crude receipts for the past two weeks from all points by river and rail:

	Last week.	This week.
Crude received, bbls	15,960	11,388

The following are the crude receipts from all points for the past twelve years, by river and rail:

From January 1st to December 31, 1859	7,063
Same time 1860	17,161
Same time 1861	34,102
Same time 1862	121,774
Same time 1863	179,194
Same time 1864	209,744
Same time 1865	450,000
Same time 1866	1,263,296
Same time 1867	787,494
Same time 1868	1,062,227
Same time 1869	1,026,902
Same time 1870	1,039,472

EXPORTS OF REFINED.

The following are the exports of refined oil East for the past two weeks by the Pennsylvania and Allegheny Valley Railroads:

	Last week.	This week.
Pennsylvania Railroad	9,963	4,463
Allegheny Valley Railroad	9,668	12,668
Total	12,651	17,056

Exports of refined oil east for the past three years by Pennsylvania and Allegheny Valley Railroads:

	1870.	1869.	1868.
Pennsylvania Railroad	185,135	145,868	191,923
Allegheny Railroad	559,856	450,607	619,235
Total	744,991	596,475	811,158

SALES.

The following are the sales of crude and refined oils for the past two weeks:

Sheep.	Last week.	This week.
Crude, barrels	28,400	17,000
Refined, barrels	4,550	2,200
Total	32,950	19,500

SATURDAY'S TRANSACTIONS.

The market on Saturday was considerably excited in regard to making the annual settlements, hence sales were altogether neglected. We did not hear of a single operation. Crude firmer. Nominal sales: Spot 93½@96; January 95½; February 94½; latter deliveries not quotable.

REFINED.

The market was devoid of animation. In the absence of sales we quote as follows: Spot 22½@23c; January 22¾@22¼; February 22½; March 23¼; March and April 23¾; May to June 24¼c.

EXCITEMENT IN THE MARKET—SETTLING CONTRACTS FOR THE OCTOBER TRADE.

For some days past there has been considerable excitement in the oil market, which culminated on Saturday night—the buyers' options for 1870 having terminated at that time. There had been contracts made (buyers' option for the year), which aggregated some fifty thousand barrels. These contracts were nearly all made by a single party, a resident of Venango county, at prices ranging from 40 to 50 cents, and the oil was required to be between 43 and 46 gravity. This dealer, finding himself "long," settled for some thirty thousand barrels, paying or compromising differences, and leaving on Saturday night twenty thousand barrels unsettled. Of the latter amount, one firm in this city had contracted to deliver ten thousand barrels, and another firm five thousand barrels. Before close of the year approached, without any intimations of a settlement on the part of the buyer, the sellers got ready to deliver the oil, and for several days have been unusually active in getting the oil loaded upon cars. Two or three locomotives were employed, and it required no less than two hundred cars to convey the oil which they had ready for delivery, (some eighteen thousand barrels,) to the places which the buyer might designate. Saturday came, and still there was no demand for oil, or indication of the purpose of the Venango party. In the meantime, two hundred loaded cars, containing eighteen thousand barrels, had been placed on the siding of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, making a train of cars fully one mile in length. Late on Saturday afternoon, the party "long" had made no demand, and there were various speculations as to what he would do. Some supposed he would decline to take the oil because it was not all of the gravity contracted for; some for other considerations. Others contended that he would be bound by the rules of the trade, which require buyers to take all over 46, by allowing three and one-half per cent. discount for each degree above 46. We understand that, between nine and ten o'clock Saturday night, the buyer agreed to take the lot of ten thousand barrels, to which we have alluded, paying 2½ cents cash, and giving paper for the difference. We are also informed that he refused the lot of five thousand barrels, alleging that the oil was "oily," it is said, to test the difference between the market and the contract price, on the five thousand barrel lot, is about $18,000.

The attempt which was made to create a "corner" signally failed, and the "longs" are considerably hurt. Some few, who were interested in the "corner," have been "squeezed." Saturday night, it is worthy of remark that the tables have been turned so far as the principal operators are concerned, those who are being placed this settlement day being the very bulls who were doing the goring one year ago, and vice versa.

There was not a single transaction on Saturday to fix a market price, and it would have been almost impossible to have made a *bona fide* purchase, nearly every barrel having been taken to meet the anticipated closing. The owners of the oil on the siding, desirous of getting the cars off, will probably make a heavy demurrage of five dollars per car to the railroad company, for each day it is unnecessarily detained. Considering all these circumstances, and the vexatious delays which always grow out of these sharp transactions, it is not surprising that the oil operators should become excited on settlement day.

Western Union Telegraph Company.

TITUSVILLE, December 31.—The *Herald* says: Upon the upper creek $2 26 was the price bid, with sellers generally holding at $3 25. We quote the following:

1,000 bbls upper creek	$3 25
150 bbls upper creek	3 25
1,500 bbls lower creek	3 25
500 bbls lower creek, 46 gravity	3 50
1,000 bbls lower creek, 46 gravity	3 45
1,000 bbls lower creek	3 40
1,000 bbls lower creek	3 35

NEW YORK, December 31.—Closing on 30th.—The petroleum market has been firmer, with one more call from refiners, but scarcely any inquiry for speculation. Crude in bulk is held at 13½@14c; refined 29½@30c; sales of 1,000 bbls at 29½c. The market closing very quiet with a fair demand from consumers at steady prices. We quote sales of 2,000 bbls Pratt's Astral at 30c; 1,000 bbls at 29½c; 2,000 bbls at 29¾c; 1,000 bbls at 29½c; 1,000 bbls at 29¾c, on private terms.

OIL CITY, December 31.—Market quiet and nominally a little off at $3 40@3 45 for irrespective on Oil Creek, and $3 60@3 65 at Oil City; heavy oil 10 cents more.

TITUSVILLE CENTER, December 31.—Market quiet at $3 45.

TITUSVILLE, December 31.—Market quiet at $3 20 for prime crude.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 31.—Market quiet at $3 45.

TITUSVILLE, December 31.—Market firm; P L & Sto W pipe 3 8 W 42½c; futures, January and February, 42½c; March to June, 44½c; cases 70@90c; crude 14@15c.

[Pacific and Atlantic Line.]

ROUSEVILLE, December 31.—Market quiet and very dull; prices a little lower. Refiners are offering not over $3 50 for crude.

PETROLEUM CITY, December 31.—Market quiet and steady at $3 50@3 55.

TIDIOUTE, December 31.—The market was steady, with a fair demand. The receipts were 70 head, and for the past two days 154 head. We can report sales at 7, 7½ and 8c ₱ lb.

FLORA.—The market was decidedly firmer, with a disposition on the part of holders to advance or control prices. We continue to quote as follows: White wheat, family brands, at $7 10 in barrels, $7 50 in sacks; red winter, fancy brands, $6 75 in barrels, $6 50 in sacks; Golden Ohio, brands $7 00, in barrels, $7 25 in sack; odd brands, for baker's use, $6 50 in barrels, $6 25 in sacks. Mill rates: National, (white) barrels, $7 50; in sacks $7 20; Pan Handle, (wheat) in amber; in barrels $6 85, in sacks $6 75; Southern Glory, in barrels $6 85, in sacks $6 75; Morning Harvest, in barrels $6 85, in sacks $6 75.

RAGS—The Market has undergone no change; we can report sales in a regular way at 3@4½c ₱ lb.

HIDES—Sales in a regular way at 5@5½c ₱ lb.

HOMINY—The receipts are light; we can report sales in a regular way at $3@3 25 ₱ bbl.

HONEY—The best per lb. at 28 @30c; 25 @26c; common $5 00 per bbl.

GROCERIES—We can report a quiet market and unchanged prices. Saturday's quotations reported as follows:

SUGAR—New Orleans 11¾@12c; Cuba 10@10½c; Havana, boxes, 11¾@12½c; Molasses sugar 9@9½c.

COFFEE—Rio, choice 21½c; prime 21c; good 19c; fair 18c; ordinary 17c.

Refined Sugars—Crushed, powdered and granulated 13c; Coffee C yellow 12¾@13c; Porto Rico, 11½c for fair, and 12¾c for choice.

SYRUPS—Sales of New Orleans 85c; white honey drips 55c; Lovering's 65c; silver drips 70c; golden do.; amber and lower grades 45, 50 and 60c ₱ gallon.

MOLASSES—The market is dull at 65@70c ₱ gallon, 70c; choice new, 75c.

GOLD—The market continued more dromant, with buyers more anxious to invest. The general impression is that prices have touched bottom. The receipts and sales were as follows: Wheat—In bulk, 2 sacks; rye, 31 sacks; barley, 326 sacks; wheat, 320 sacks; corn, 1,000 sacks. The current rates, with sales, were: Wheat—In mills are disposed to purchase freely at the following: Red winter $1 20@1 23 for 1; white $1 40@1 45. Oats—The market is dull and firm; we can report sales by the car load at 66@66½c; store rates 69@70c ₱ bush. Corn wanted; buyers were plenty with a slight supply on the market; ear is quoted at 66@66c; on track for mixed to prime yellow. Certain dealers holding out for 70c. Rye steady but not active; the extreme prices are 80@85c. Barley dull; nothing doing worthy of notice; spring 80@85c; fall 90@95c ₱ bushel.

LARD OIL—There is a good supply on hand, and sales No. 1 are made at $1 12; No. 2 $0@0 85c. Cincinnati and Chicago winter strained $1 13 ₱ gallon.

POULTRY—The supply is light, with a fair demand, and but for the cold weather, which has kept the market terribly dull, we quote: Dressed chickens 12@13c; ducks 12@14c; in a regular way at 8@9c; geese 8@9c. Turkeys 17@18c ₱ lb.

POTATOES—Firm; sales Peachblows at $1@1 05 ₱ bu for car load, and $1 10@1 15 from store.

SOAP—Prices are steady: Babbitt's, 11c; Oakley's, 10½c; chemical olive, 8c; rosin, No. 1, 7c.

SWEET POTATOES—The supply is light, the weather being unfavorable for shipment; Jerseys sell at $4, 50 ₱ barrel.

HONEY—Market well supplied; we can report regular sales at 30@35c ₱ lb.

HOPS—New crop being picked 22@24c ₱ lb.

LIME—Sales of Kelly, Shrewsand white at $2 25 and Eastern $1 75 ₱ bbl.

MILL STUFF—Dull. The supply exceed the demand. Quotations are so uncertain that we omit them.

RICE—Sales of North Carolina at 7½@8c.

WHISKY—The market continues quiet and firm at the following: Highwines 98c; common rectified 90c; proof rectified, 93c; in bond corn $1 07@1 10 ₱ gallon; old Monongahela whisky $4 00@4 05 ₱ gallon, and bonded, cash for 1 year.

BULK MEAT—The market was steady with a fair demand. Prices having undergone no change, we omit figures.

HOMINY—Sales of pearl at $6 25; common $5 00@5 50 ₱ bbl.

SEEDS—The market was not an active one. Wagon report small offerings of Clowersead at 10@10½c ₱ lb. Timothy—Nothing doing; prices too much for us. Flaxseed is selling in a regular way at $2 12@2 15 ₱ bushel.

SUMAC—The market is well supplied; we can report sales of Tennessee at 4½c per lb.

WILLOWS—We note sales of Kentucky Willows at 3½c ₱ lb.

TURNIPS—Regular sales at 40@50c per bushel

TALLOW—City rendered 8@8½c ₱ lb.

SAFFRON—Sales at 65@70c ₱ half gross.

SALT—The market is well supplied and sales are regularly done at $1 40@1 45 for Ashton and $1 60@1 70 per bbl —usual advance for store rates.

SODA—Sales in kegs 6c; boxes, assorted papers 8c; sal soda 3½c ₱ lb.

WOODENWARE—Following are wholesale prices per dozen: Buckets, Painted, $1 75@2 00; Tubs, No. 1, 3 hoops, $11 00; No. 2, 2 hoops, $9 50; No. 3, 2 hoops, $8 50. Washboards $3 00.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE OIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, January 2, 1871.

The following are the receipts of crude oil for the past week, with a comparison table with previous years; also, the exports of refined, together with the week's transactions:

	Receipts Crude per per Penn. R. R.	Exports Crude per per Penn. R. R.	Exports Refined per A. V. R. R.
Monday, Dec. 26	1,526	265	3,257
Tuesday, Dec. 27			
Wednesday, Dec. 28	783	1,328	3,300
Thursday, Dec. 29	2,366	1,960	1,602
Friday, Dec. 30	8,573	1,608	4,440
Saturday, Dec. 31	3,820		2,405
Total per week	11,388	4,463	12,634
Since January 1	1,039,472	187,460	606,833
To Dec. 31, 1870	1,050,810	191,923	619,235
Same time 1869	1,026,902	145,868	450,607
Same time 1868	1,062,227	188,136	589,856

BUSINESS.

The market during the week was one of considerable excitement being the last week of the year. More attention was paid to settlements that to anything else. The bulls and the bears had a very interesting time. We think it perfectly safe to predict that oil sales and operations will be carried on somewhat different in the future. It will be observed that the receipts of crude for past three years exceeds one million barrels per year. In another part of this report we publish a history of the oil receipts for the past twelve years, taken from the files of the daily COMMERCIAL. In 1859 the receipts were 7,063 barrels: in 1870 they amounted to 1,039,472.

CRUDE RECEIPTS.

The following are the crude receipts for the past two weeks from all points by river and rail:

	Last week.	This week.
Crude received, bbls	15,960	11,388

The following are the crude receipts from all points for the past twelve years, by river and rail:

From January 1st to December 31, 1859	7,063
Same time 1860	17,161
Same time 1861	34,102
Same time 1862	121,774
Same time 1863	179,194
Same time 1864	209,744
Same time 1865	450,000
Same time 1866	1,263,296
Same time 1867	787,494
Same time 1868	1,062,227
Same time 1869	1,026,902
Same time 1870	1,039,472

EXPORTS OF REFINED.

The following are the exports of refined oil East for the past two weeks by the Pennsylvania and Allegheny Valley Railroads:

	Last week.	This week.
Pennsylvania Railroad	9,963	4,463
Allegheny Valley Railroad	9,668	12,668
Total	12,651	17,056

Exports of refined oil east for the past three years by Pennsylvania and Allegheny Valley Railroads:

	1870.	1869.	1868.
Pennsylvania Railroad	185,135	145,868	191,923
Allegheny Railroad	559,856	450,607	619,235
Total	744,991	596,475	811,158

SALES.

The following are the sales of crude and refined oils for the past two weeks:

Sheep.	Last week.	This week.
Crude, barrels	28,400	17,000
Refined, barrels	4,550	2,200
Total	32,950	19,500

SATURDAY'S TRANSACTIONS.

The market on Saturday was considerably excited in regard to making the annual settlements, hence sales were altogether neglected. We did not hear of a single operation. Crude firmer. Nominal sales: Spot 93½@96; January 95½; February 94½; latter deliveries not quotable.

REFINED.

The market was devoid of animation. In the absence of sales we quote as follows: Spot 22½@23c; January 22¾@22¼; February 22½; March 23¼; March and April 23¾; May to June 24¼c.

EXCITEMENT IN THE MARKET—SETTLING CONTRACTS FOR THE OCTOBER TRADE.

For some days past there has been considerable excitement in the oil market, which culminated on Saturday night—the buyers' options for 1870 having terminated at that time. There had been contracts made (buyers' option for the year), which aggregated some fifty thousand barrels. These contracts were nearly all made by a single party, a resident of Venango county, at prices ranging from 40 to 50 cents, and the oil was required to be between 43 and 46 gravity. This dealer, finding himself "long," settled for some thirty thousand barrels, paying or compromising differences, and leaving on Saturday night twenty thousand barrels unsettled. Of the latter amount, one firm in this city had contracted to deliver ten thousand barrels, and another firm five thousand barrels. Before close of the year approached, without any intimations of a settlement on the part of the buyer, the sellers got ready to deliver the oil, and for several days have been unusually active in getting the oil loaded upon cars. Two or three locomotives were employed, and it required no less than two hundred cars to convey the oil which they had ready for delivery, (some eighteen thousand barrels,) to the places which the buyer might designate. Saturday came, and still there was no demand for oil, or indication of the purpose of the Venango party. In the meantime, two hundred loaded cars, containing eighteen thousand barrels, had been placed on the siding of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, making a train of cars fully one mile in length. Late on Saturday afternoon, the party "long" had made no demand, and there were various speculations as to what he would do. Some supposed he would decline to take the oil because it was not all of the gravity contracted for; some for other considerations. Others contended that he would be bound by the rules of the trade, which require buyers to take all over 46, by allowing three and one-half per cent. discount for each degree above 46. We understand that, between nine and ten o'clock Saturday night, the buyer agreed to take the lot of ten thousand barrels, to which we have alluded, paying 2½ cents cash, and giving paper for the difference. We are also informed that he refused the lot of five thousand barrels, alleging that the oil was "oily," it is said, to test the difference between the market and the contract price, on the five thousand barrel lot, is about $18,000.

The attempt which was made to create a "corner" sign

Daily Commercial.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Dissolution Notice—Smith & Cowley.
Copartnership Notice—M. De Lange.
Dissolution Notice—Bissell & Co.
Dissolution Notice—Thos. Palmer & Co.
Partnership Notice—Carnahan, Kloman & Co.
Iron City College—Open Day and Evening.
Dividend—City Bank.
Dividend—Allegheny Bank.
Dividend—First National Bank.
Dividend—Artisans' Deposit Bank.
Dividend—Commercial Banking Company.
Election Notice—Pittsburgh and Virginia Railroad.
Pocketbook Lost.
Farm for Sale—Administrators John Wertz.
Portable Saw Mills—Garmon & Co.
Engine and Machinery for Sale—Perry Dondo.
Business Chance—Productive Box 8005, City.
Opera House—Colleen Bawn.
Opera House—Tuesday, Beetles; or Babes in the Woods.
Opera House—Captain Charlotte.
Trimble's Varieties Theater.
Mercantile Library Hall—George Vandenhoff, January 3d.
Orphans' Fair—Basement of St. Paul's Cathedral.
Bankers—N. Holmes & Sons.
Dividend—Pittsburgh National Bank of Commerce.
Academy of Music—Richard No. 3.
Dividend—Tradesmen's National Bank.
Dividend—Farmers' Deposit National Bank.
Salesman Wanted—T. S. G., Enquirer office, Philadelphia, Pa.
Proposals—F. Jordan.
Fair and Festival—Eighth U. P. Church.
Teas, Sugars, Molasses—Dilworth, Harper & Co.
Belting and Hose for Sale—Hartley, McKee & Co.
Aerated Crackers—Marvin's.
Cream Ale—Pier, Bannon & Co.
Snow Flake—T. C. Jenkins.
Aerated Crackers—Marvin's.
Sewing Machine—116 Market street.
Notice—Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Co.
National Insurance Company of Allegheny.
Wood Sewing Machines—116 Market street.
Sugar, Molasses, Tobacco, &c.—Arbuckles & Co.
Fine Shirts, Gloves, Underwear, &c.—Putnam's.
India Ink—Joshua Rhodes.
Brown's Bronchial Troches.
Rutmer Tobacco Works—Austin & Co.
Residence for Sale—A. W. Lukens.
Wood Sewing Machines—116 Market street.
Burnett's—Kalliston.
Holiday Presents—Chas. Abel & Co.
Mortgages Wanted—Thos. K. Petty.
Homewood Lots for Sale—Mellon Bros.
Bargains for the Holidays—Morgenstern & Co.
Patent Solicitor—Memo. & Co.
Steubenville, Ohio, Female Seminary—Begins Feb'y 1.
Lace Leather—Hartley, McKee & Co.
Notice—Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad Co.
Notice—Tempest Seville and West Pittsburgh Savings Bank.
Washington and Jefferson College—Opens January 4.
Bridal Sets—Bailey & Co.
Coal, Nut Coal and Slack—Corey & Co.
Homœopathic Specities—McClarran & McKennan.
Dog, Game Cock Notice—D. De Haven & Sons.
Hoff's Malt Extract.

MURDER WILL OUT.

SUPPOSED CAPTURE OF THE NATHAN ASSASSIN.

The Left-handed Blow and Deformed Hand Betray Him.

A Strange Story of an Amateur Detective.

George the Count Joannes, a well known character of New York City, writes to the *Sun* an interesting narrative, that, if confirmed, will confer deserved credit upon him, for bringing to justice the assassin of Benjamin Nathan, the tragic story of whose murder cannot be forgotten. The Count avers that at the grave of Mr. Nathan he vowed to devote his time, skill, diplomacy, and hazard of personal danger to trace out the murderer and his accomplices "and not actuated by any earthly reward, but by the sacred obligation of a conscientious duty to Almighty God and my fellow-citizens!"

Five gentlemen formed a secret vigilance committee, with the Count as chairman, but soon his associates retired, leaving him alone as to time, expenses and personal danger; and in this duty he cast aside proffered professional business.

Having finally got upon the track which has resulted in discovering the murderer, as he thinks, the Count pursued the investigation, with full co-operation from the authorities. He was given free and frequent access to the men in one of the city prisons, who were supposed to know something about the affair. One of them is now said to be the guilty man, and the other, who is virtually his accuser, was his "pal" for some time, but was a prisoner for twelve months from December 14, 1869, in the same institution where the alleged assassin has been, for several months, being so situated that they had several opportunities for conversation. The accuser is twenty-eight years old, a civil engineer by profession, and served for three years as detailed sergeant and messenger to Admiral Farragut on the Hartford. The statements by him as to his knowledge of the affair were made in an interview on October 1, 1870, the day after the Admiral's funeral, an event that seemed to influence him to his confession. The conversation, so far as it relates to the murder, is told as succinctly as possible in the following form, which is sworn and deposed to as correct by the prisoner:

Count Joannes—While in said military service, or since, did you or have you become acquainted, personally or otherwise, with [illegible]?

Prisoner—I am acquainted with said ——; became acquainted with him in August, 1869; introduced by ——, the city editor of the —— to the corner of Houston and Wooster streets; he is connected with the murder, so far as ——[aiding, &c.] the party who did the murder and robbery.

Count Joannes—Do you know of any plot to rob the house of the late Mr. Nathan in the summer of 1869?

Prisoner—Yes! There was a "put up job" by ——and ——, and myself, and the party who killed Mr. Nathan. [NOTE—This answer, and all others following, are in the handwriting of prisoner.]

Count Joannes—In the above plot did the plotters house, and confederate associate? Yes, where were they situated, and in what parts of the house, and what did you all believe they contained, and who first told you that they contained valuables?

Prisoner—Yes: they knew exactly the position of said safes, the plan having been drawn by myself, with the assistance of ——.

Count Joannes—Had you any knowledge of any intention to murder the late Mr. Nathan?

Prisoner—No, sir!

Count Joannes—When did you first hear or learn of the murder of the late Mr. Nathan? Was it from a newspaper?

Prisoner—From the New York *Sun*.

Count Joannes—Do you personally know from information who notoriously killed the late Benjamin Nathan? Answer this question, as I give to it, and with the same solemnity—calling our God to witness to our truth—as if you were on your death-bed! Answer freely and fearlessly.

Prisoner (instantly—writing)—Yes! I know the party! (Note—He then paused for a moment, and then in a firm handwriting wrote the name and three aliases.

Count Joannes—Did that person confess to you that he killed the late Mr. Nathan? If so, in what words, or their substance, by which he communicated that fact to you, and the date when he told you.

Prisoner—When I asked him relative to his doing the "job" in Twenty-third street, he changed color and told me to "shut up." August 5 or 6, 1870.

Count Joannes—With what weapon do you believe the murderer killed Mr. Nathan?

Prisoner—With the iron rung, or what the people call the dog.

(Note.—It is singular that when I subsequently asked the accused, and he not knowing that he was accused, with what weapon he believed the murder was accomplished, he instantly answered, "*With the iron rung*," the same and unusual word used by his accuser, though by all other persons it is called the "iron dog.")

Count Joannes—If you have any knowledge of the weapon generally now known as the "iron dog," state your knowledge in full, or its history in every particular.

Prisoner—This "iron dog" was picked up in Camp Methermit, Nevada, in May, 1869, while Jim and I were there. It was used for opening boxes of ammunition, from which we used to pilfer, and was brought on to New York as a memento of having fought as a Pinte Indian, and kept by me in my trunk until I gave Jim an order to get it. Note—The foregoing and all his answers were written instantly.

Count Joannes—Did you see in the murderer's possession any jewelry, money, or any valuables that belonged to the late Mr. Nathan?

Prisoner—I saw three large diamond studs and a gold watch and chain, which I saw him, August 3, 1870.

Count Joannes—Did the murderer give you any money?

Prisoner—He gave me five dollars.

Count Joannes—About how long a period before the 27th of July, 1870,—the day of the murder—did the subsequent killer of Mr. Nathan call and see you?

Prisoner—About July 20, 21, or 22, 1870.

Count Joannes—Did he ask to borrow any articles, implements, or professional "screws" of you? If yes, did you meet his wish, and state what articles you lent him, and where he went to do the thing?

Prisoner—Yes: he asked me for jimmies, &c., and said he was going to "screw" that house in Twenty-third street. I told him to go to my trunk and get the jimmies, &c., and he took the "dog" and a revolver, &c.

Count Joannes—Was the implement now known as the iron "dog" among the articles you loaned to him?

Prisoner—Yes!

Count Joannes—Was the said iron "dog" ever longer than when you lent it to him? If yes, why was it shortened?

Prisoner—It was unhandy to carry in my pocket.

Count Joannes—Do you know, or did the murderer of Mr. Nathan ever speak to you of the Twenty-third street. I told him to go to my trunk and get the jimmies, &c., and he took the "dog" and a revolver, &c.

Count Joannes—Was the implement now known as the iron "dog" among the articles you loaned to him?

Prisoner—Yes!

Count Joannes—Was the said iron "dog" ever longer than when you lent it to him? If yes, why was it shortened?

Prisoner—It was unhandy to carry in my pocket.

Count Joannes—Do you know, or did the murderer of Mr. Nathan ever speak to you of